

THE TIMES

Poulson: The case for an agency to fight corruption, p14

'Ire rages on after one of the worst disasters in world chemical industry

Managers of the £18m chemical plant destroyed by explosion and fire on Saturday with the loss of 29 lives—and still blazing today—had no idea last night what caused the disaster. Leslie Grainger, chairman of Nypro, which owns the plant,



Thick smoke billowing over the countryside yesterday from the Nypro plant at Flixborough, which was still burning more than 24 hours after the explosion. (Another photograph, page 4).

29 workers dead, more than 40 injured and huge area of surrounding land devastated

Some returned home yesterday. Mr Selman said last night there was "not much danger" from toxic gases, and that although another chemical tank or two might "blow its roof off" during the fire, which would probably take at least another 24 hours to extinguish, he did not foresee any major dangers. A radioactive fallout scare also spread through the villages adjoining the plant yesterday. Last night at the news conference executives said there was a container of radioactive (gamma ray) material in the plant, but that it had been found intact and safe. Nypro is a specialist company which in turn is a co-producer of coal-coking processes and is similar in its general qualities to petrol. The seat of the explosion was traced yesterday to a part of the 20-acre factory where the cycle hexane is oxidized by being heated and subjected to pressure. There, in "section 8" of the factory, it is believed 29 victims died instantly, their bodies probably disintegrating in the intense heat. Forty others escaped from neighbouring departments, most of them being burnt, injured or badly shocked. Ten were still in hospital last night. The intensity of the fire late last night was still preventing any access to the area where most of the victims died. Had the explosion happened on a weekday, the death and injury toll would have been much higher, as the plant employs a total of 300 people, with about 200 on duty on a normal day shift. On Saturday night there were only 70 on the site. Mr Wynn Rogers, chairman of the Dutch State Mines, said last night: "It is completely amazing. We cannot understand it." Mr Grainger said although they were always conscious of the danger of fire, the heating and pressurization process was carried out in closely controlled conditions and numerous interlocking devices had been fitted into all the control systems to prevent human error. Mr Selman said there were several dozen plants of the same kind in the world. This plant was fully insured and its safety standards were accepted by all the leading insurance companies. A full investigation by the company and police experts has begun and Mr Grainger said the company would give full assistance to any further inquiry. "We think we shall come to the conclusion that this was unique in the history of the chemical industry," he said. A committee has been formed to carry out urgent action on compensation to victims, including the hundreds of house-holders and property owners for miles around who suffered blast and shock damage. "This company will fully meet its commitments," Mr Grainger said.

Stiffening of EEC in face of Britain's demands

From Roger Berthoud Brussels, June 2
Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, will be making his second statement on the Labour Government's renegotiation demands in Luxembourg on Tuesday from a considerably weakened position. It is widely felt in Brussels. There is a new determination, symbolized by the weak stance of the new French President and the new West German Chancellor in Paris, to revive the drooping EEC, coupled with a new warmth in Franco-German relations. Renegotiations look increasingly like an irritating obstacle. It will be Mr Callaghan repeating the threats to Britain's withdrawal which marked his harsh April 1 statement in Luxembourg. Such threats would no longer be convincing, as it is felt generally that the British Government genuinely wants Britain to stay in the Community. Even the American Administration has made it clear it is appalled by talk of withdrawal. Mr Callaghan will have to do more than persuade his sceptical colleagues that Britain has a genuine grievance, and that the necessary treaty did not represent a fair deal. He will have to convince them that once any negotiations are over Britain will want to play a full and constructive role in the Community. This involves admitting that the broad goals of the Community, including eventual economic and monetary union, are worth while. Mr Callaghan's tone of voice will be all important. The European Commission has meanwhile rebuffed a suggestion from Britain that it should put forward proposals itself for a more equitable system of contributions to the EEC budget. A reduction in Britain's proportional share is the main target of renegotiations. But the Government, sources here suggest, does not intend to state its demands too specifically. A Commission initiative would have been convenient. But the Commission, having discussed the matter, felt it would be unwise at this stage to appear to be backing the British Government. Under the present system, based on import levies and duties, the wealthy Germans and the relatively poor British and Italians, are net contributors, while the rich Dutch, French and Belgium are net beneficiaries. By 1980, according to Treasury calculations, Britain could be paying 24 per cent of the budget, while its share in the EEC's gross product would have dropped to 14 per cent.

Bipartisan policy in balance as MPs prepare for Ulster debate

By John Grosar Political Staff
By the end of the two-day emergency debate on Northern Ireland tomorrow night, the Government will know whether it can continue with a bipartisan policy. Ministers, who so far have listened anxiously to the rumblings of discontent that have been heard on all sides of the House as well as in certain parts of the Lords, fear that in the next two days the rumblings will grow to a crescendo as MPs and peers insist that enough British involvement is enough. Before the debates start, groups of MPs and peers will meet at Westminster to review what they all regard as an extremely grave situation. This morning Government business managers in the Lords will decide whether the debate in the Upper House should last two days also. Whether it is a one-day debate (as was suggested, it would be on Friday) or a two-day one, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Elwyn Jones, will open. He will be followed by the Opposition by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone. If the debate continues into the second day, it is understood that Lord Shepherd, Lord Privy Seal, will open for the Government and Lord Donaldson, Under Secretary for Northern Ireland, will wind up. Lord Windlesham, shadow Leader of the House, and Lord Belsted will speak for the Opposition. In the Commons the speakers today will be Mr Rees, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland; Mr Silkin, Attorney General; Mr Pym, Conservative spokesman on Northern Ireland; and Mr Deedes, Conservative MP for Ashford. Tomorrow, Mr Poulson will open the debate and will be followed by Mr Heath and Mr Gilmour, Conservative spokesman on Defence; Mr Orme, Minister of State for Northern Ireland; and Mr Pym. At 1.45 pm today, Mr Deedes, a former Cabinet Minister, will chair a meeting of the Conservative backbench Northern Ireland committee. It is thought likely that Mr Pym will attend. Mr Deedes, who has said publicly that Conservative MPs should no longer be barred from criticizing by the Opposition commitment to a bipartisan approach, will want to hear the views of his backbench colleagues before he moves down to the front bench to wind up tonight's debate. Inevitably the Home Secretary's statement on the Price sisters will be brought into the debate. Most MPs warmly applauded this "firm decision not to give in to blackmail." Others, however, wonder if the statement is worth the risk involved and the possible danger to still more members of the public. The statement, issued by Mr Jenkins on Saturday, has been praised by Opposition spokes-

Guerrillas seek peace talks compromise

From Paul Martin Beirut, June 2
The self-styled Palestinian Parliament today tried to hammer out a formula for participation in the Geneva talks as the great debate on current peace moves continued. A peace-saving compromise offered by the divided guerrilla movement calls for Palestinian attendance if participants at Geneva agree to discuss "Palestinian rights". Ever since it opened in Cairo on Saturday, the 154-member Executive Council has served to underline the difficulties already faced by the guerrillas. However, Mr Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization and leader of the moderate group, has already begun to muster support both inside and outside the meeting. As the council met today, it was reported that 73,000 Palestinians in Lebanon and Syria had lent their signatures to a petition supporting a compromise document. This outlined 10 points under which Mr Arafat and his supporters hoped to avert a public split with the militants and take the Palestinians into the Geneva talks. One compromise proposal, which is understood to have won the council's approval today, was the rejection of Geneva attendance if this was to be within the framework of the United Nations resolution 242. This resolution called merely for a settlement of the Palestine "refugee" problem as part of an overall settlement. Palestinian leaders have insisted that this does not tackle the "national rights" of Palestinian. Progress at Geneva, page 6

Keegan held in Belgrade airport incident

From Geoffrey Green Football Correspondent Belgrade, June 2
Kevin Keegan, a member of the England football team who are to play Yugoslavia on Wednesday, was involved in an incident on arrival here today from Sofia. He was originally taken into custody, but was later released "on surveillance". The British Embassy are investigating the matter and have asked the Yugoslavs for an explanation. The incident was born of a mistake in the English tour itinerary that did not take account of the hour's time difference between Sofia and Belgrade. There were no Yugoslav football officials on hand to greet the team and shepherd them through foreign territory. It seems that some of the players indulged in harmless horseplay that was misunderstood by the airport officials. Keegan, fired out by the flight, was sitting with his hand luggage when he and some others were hustled unceremoniously. His belongings flew in various directions; he was manhandled, and frog-marched out of sight and into detention. It was only on the arrival and intervention of Dr Andrejic, president of the Yugoslav Football Association, that Keegan was finally released, mopping a stinging nose. England's next challenge, page 11

'Resign' call to Mr Short

Mr Edward Milne, Independent Labour MP for Blyth, yesterday demanded the resignation of Mr Edward Short, deputy leader of the Labour Party. Mr Milne spoke at Ponteland, Northumberland, of a "crisis of confidence" in the leadership of Mr Wilson and Mr Short. The strongly worded statement from the Attorney General last week about further investigations into the Poulson affair and other matters related makes his resignation vital to a free Parliament able to raise and discuss the many issues of this nature coming before it. terminate on the return of a Labour Government in 1964? If the arrangements finished on Labour taking office, were they passed on to others? At that time I did not raise the demand for his resignation. It is not enough to refuse to take the chair of the privileges committee and leave it at that. The strongly worded statement from the Attorney General last week about further investigations into the Poulson affair and other matters related makes his resignation vital to a free Parliament able to raise and discuss the many issues of this nature coming before it. When was Mr Wilson first informed of the situation? Did it

Africans reject Rhodesia settlement plan

From Our Correspondent Salisbury, June 2
The African National Council (ANC) today unanimously rejected a settlement proposal which was the outcome of almost a year's discussions between the Rhodesian Government and itself. But it proposed that further negotiations with the Government should take place, with emphasis on parliamentary representation for blacks and the franchise. The ANC said that under the proposals it would take blacks between 40 and 60 years to reach parity with whites in the House of Assembly. A Rhodesian Government spokesman said tonight that there would be no comment on the rejection of the proposals. But the fact that the ANC leadership wishes to continue talking to the Government indicates that it is maintaining a moderate line.

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Textile industry jobs may be affected

Our Business News Staff
Thousands of workers in the textile industry may be affected by the explosion at the Scunthorpe caprolactam plant. The plant was the only one of its kind in Britain producing caprolactam, which is the basic material used in the manufacture of nylon fibres. Its principal customers, Courtaulds and British Enkaion, together with other British nylon producers, will have to find alternative sources of supply for a wide range of uses. Like many other fibres, nylon has been in short supply for several months. Although the British nylon industry is expected to recover strongly from the difficulties in the early part of the year, stocks have not been built up to normal levels. Executives of both companies have to find alternative sources of supply for an already scarce material and will have to pay substantially higher prices for overseas supplies. Records feared lost, page 4
Business news, page 17

Families return to salvage what they can from the ruins of their homes

From Staff Reporters Scunthorpe
The shocked and bandaged residents of the 16 shattered houses in Stathes Road, Flixborough, the closest to the devastated plant, 600 yards away across a field of corn, picked their way through their bills and debris yesterday afternoon. Many wandered, with justification, how they had survived. If ever the overworked cliché about debris resembling that of war-time was justified, it was on this occasion. The plant was an awesome thing, like a mangled, futuristic mecano set, blackened and smoking with zones of flame flaring at the base of a dense column of black smoke which could be seen 30 miles away. Across the cornfield the semi-detached houses had taken the full force of the explosion. Residents, some in tears at the destruction of homes that had taken from 20 to 30 years to make, realised that they had been destroyed in one second at five minutes to five on Saturday evening. Cables were blown away, roof joists had been sheared and pointed to the sky. Walls blown and were cracked from top to bottom. Roofs had been washed clean of slates; ceilings had fallen, window frames had been blown to matchwood and the brick-arch of everyday life was embedded in walls or shredded by glass. A television set with its innards blown open, fitted wardrobe cleared of a stroke, a vacuum cleaner hanging from an upstairs window and personal papers eddying everywhere in the gutters and on the wall kept laws. Shortly after lunchtime the residents began returning from their overnight temporary homes with friends and relatives. Their own vehicles probably crushed beyond repair, they came in borrowed cars to salvage what they could. They departed sadly, with vehicles piled with clothing and the odd piece of favourite furniture to give an assurance of normality in the weeks to come. Mr Daniel Nimmo, a number 7, a civil engineer and wartime member of a commando unit, spoke of the most terrifying experience of his life. It was a moment shared by probably between 15,000 and 20,000 in Flixborough and farther afield in neighbouring villages, and even in Scunthorpe four miles away. Mr Nimmo was watching football on television when his son Brian, who plays for the United club in Scunthorpe, the latter called to him at five minutes to five that "the Nypro" as it is called locally, was on fire. Mr Nimmo went to his front window and saw a surge of flame around the unit, black known as Section One. The residents of Stathes Road are no strangers to the wall of fire sirens. The Scunthorpe Brigade, they said, was called to the plant on an average of twice a month to deal with small outbreaks. Mr Nimmo said he knew something about this time. Continued on page 4, col 5

Land market 'near collapse'

The building land market faces a "state of collapse" because of the continuing decline in demand, the Digest of Building Land Prices says today. Average land prices, at £20,890 an acre, are almost £6,000 below last year's average level. Meanwhile, the country's large building societies report that although demand for houses is increasing, prices are unlikely to rise before next spring. Business News, page 17

Chinese pandas for London

Hongkong, June 2.—China will present two giant pandas to London zoo as a gift to the British people. It is thought there will be one male and one female panda. Mr Heath, who has been visiting China, announced the gift on his arrival in Hongkong today before flying back to London. Chinese poster attack, page 6

Industrial development can weigh on the mind



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HOME NEWS

Industry, schools and transport threatened as Scottish oil refinery men decide to stay out

From Ronald Faux Grangemouth Process workers at the British Petroleum refinery at Grangemouth voted unanimously yesterday to continue the unofficial strike which is seriously affecting public transport, petrol supplies and industry in central Scotland.

of the country's fuel requirements. They have prevented all but essential supplies from leaving and they are planning to extend picketing to England. Almost all the 1,500 Shell and BP petrol stations will run dry by early this week. Many have empty pumps and the increased demand on other brands has meant voluntary rationing at most garages.

be laid off this week. The steelmaking, distilling and glassmaking industries have been affected and the Confederation of British Industry has described the situation as "close to chaos". The strikers receive a shift allowance of £432 and have rejected the latest management offer of £225 which, according to BP, would make them the highest paid shift workers at any British refinery.

Pakistani coming back to see the Queen

From Our Correspondent Wolverhampton Mr Noor Hussein, aged 80, a former Pakistani soldier who made a bid for the Queen and was deported when he came to present it, is due to arrive in London from Lahore next weekend to present a hand-carved bed to Princess Anne.

Home Office blamed for delay over bail hostels

From Our Home Affairs Correspondent York A bail hostel in Sheffield, completed six months ago, is not being used because the Home Office has not given permission. This was disclosed on Saturday at a conference at York University, arranged by the National Association of Probation Officers.

less than a week and two others were expected to be ready later in the year. Mr Jim Horne, director of the St. Mungo Community Trust, which is to run the Sheffield hostel at the Home Office's request, told me that the building had been bought, converted and equipped with £30,000 provided by the Home Office. Three staff, including a warden, had been appointed.

Scientist's crossword win

From Edmund Akenhead Crossword Editor Bristol The fifth regional final of the Cutty Sark Times Crossword Championship was attended yesterday by 102 competitors at the Dragonara Hotel, Bristol.

West Bromwich. He scored maximum puzzle points of 24 and 85 time bonus points (his average time being nine minutes a puzzle). The runner-up, who will also be in the national final in London on September 1, was Mr Eric L. Rodick, of Ramshill, Hampshire. Prizes were also presented to Mr H. W. Stubbs and Mr J. D. Baker, the only other competitors to score maximum puzzle points. Their time bonus points were 74 and 47 respectively.

Art teacher reinstated

Mr Derek Massey, an art teacher at a school in Letchworth, who was suspended from duty after performing a mock ceremony of exorcism outside a cinema showing The Exorcist, has been reinstated by the school's governors.

More health service staff join strike

By Raymond Perman Labour Staff Medical technicians are due today to join the growing number of health service workers taking industrial action over pay. They will begin a series of week-long strikes that will close hospital heart and chest clinics. The strikes will begin in London, but will spread to other major cities later. Among hospitals affected are the National Heart Hospital, Guy's, St Thomas's, and the London Hospital.

Mrs Wilson's 'mystical experience'

By a Staff Reporter Mrs Mary Wilson, wife of the Prime Minister, said in a television interview shown last night that she had been "sick with fear" when she first moved into 10 Downing Street. She explained that it was due to a "mystical experience".

New gliding champion

Flight Lieutenant George Lee, of RAF Cominsgry, Lincolnshire, is the new British gliding champion. He won four of the six events in the open class of the national championships at Dunstable Downs, Bedfordshire, last week.

Cardinal criticizes Mr Jenkins's decision

From Robert Fisk Belfast The refusal of Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, to transfer the Price sisters to prison in Northern Ireland yesterday evoked criticism from two leading Roman Catholic churchmen in Ulster as well as further threats from the Provisional IRA's army council in Dublin.



Mr Albert Price, father of the Price sisters, and his daughter Claire at a rally in London yesterday.

Cardinal Conway, Primate of all Ireland, said in Armagh that he was "deeply disappointed" at Mr Jenkins's decision, which he thought was a mistake. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Derry, Dr Edward Daly, said that the sisters' request to be sent to Ulster was reasonable.

On Saturday the IRA said in a statement that they would exact "just retribution" if either of the sisters died on hunger strike. "The IRA make no threats. We simply state that as comrades of these girls we shall not rest until justice has been done for them," Mr Wilson and his servants. No British government shall murder citizens of Ireland and expect to get away scot free.

There has, however, been remarkably little public demonstration of sympathy with the Price sisters in the Catholic community of Belfast. At a park on the Falls Road yesterday, scarcely a mile from the sisters' home, only 300 people turned up to hear speakers including Mrs Maire Drumm, the vice-president of Sinn Féin, and a transfer of the girls to Ulster.

The apparent lack of popular support for the girls suggests that there would be no widespread rioting if they died. The army is not believed to have any intention of using force against any fundamental change in the overall security situation in Belfast. There is no doubt that the IRA could lay on some spectacular military operation in order to show their displeasure.

Transfer to Ulster 'not way to protect British people'

The following is the text of Mr Jenkins's statement on the Price sisters: I have naturally been giving very close and careful consideration to the position of the Price sisters and others who are serving prison sentences in this country for acts of IRA terrorism. I think it desirable in present circumstances to make the position as I possibly can. I do not wish to understand to be a factor in events which can have substantial repercussions.

and in my view, in the last resort, overwhelming. The objections to giving a promise under duress, or to acts of violence, are obvious. Nor should I give a promise I could not be certain of fulfilling. Who can tell what will be the conditions in Northern Ireland at the end of this period?

Then there are the inevitable repercussions. There are four other prisoners on hunger strike, and transferring them to Northern Ireland, and more than 30 others, convicted of terrorist activities. Am I to transfer them all under the pressure of the hunger strikes of some or all of them? I will in no way resist from these statements I made in March if repeated in May that I will consider the matter with sympathy.

with the murder by explosives seven people. Am I to give advance notice of such acts of terrorism can be made here under the assumption that those who may be convicted of them can, provided their will is strong enough, dictate where it will be kept, and perhaps what it is their hopes of being rescued. Substantial though the dilemma, that sets the way to try to protect the British people from further acts of terrorism.

Special message for retirement pensioners and widows.

If your next order book is not waiting at the Post Office when the old one runs out, don't worry. For the time being the Post Office will make payments on presentation of the cover of your old book. So please go there every week.

New pensioners will receive payments through the local social security office. This applies also to widows entitled to widow's benefit at the end of the widow's allowance period. If in difficulty you should go to the local social security office.

Pensions at the new rates are due to be paid from week beginning 22 July but some order books will have to be issued with orders after that date at the old rate. Arrears back-dated to 22 July will be paid as soon as conditions permit.

Pensioners living in the Irish Republic and Channel Islands whose books run out will be sent a Giro cheque.

Issued by the Department of Health and Social Security.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today Sun rises: 5.43 am, sets: 9.10 pm. Moon sets: 8.54 pm. Full Moon: Tomorrow. Light up: 8.40 pm to 4.17 am. High water: London Bridge, 1.29 am, 6.6m (21.5ft); 1.48 pm, 6.5m (21.2ft); Avonmouth, 6.50 am, 1.27m (4.15ft); 7.15 pm, 12.4m (40.6ft); Dover, 10.57 am, 6.0m (19.7ft); 11.16 pm, 6.1m (20.0ft); Hull, 5.46 am, 6.6m (21.8ft); 6.9 pm, 6.7m (22.1ft); Liverpool, 11.1 am, 8.1m (26.5ft); 11.21 pm, 8.3m (27.1ft).

in places at first sunny spells developing with W to NW light; max temp 17°C or 18°C (63° to 64°F). W Midlands, S Wales: Dry with sunny intervals; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 17° or 18°C (63° to 64°F).



London: Temp: max: 7 am, 20°C (68°F); min: 7 pm, 14°C (57°F). Humid: 83 per cent. Rain, 24hr total: 0.2mm. Sun: 1hr 17 min. Bar: mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,023.5 millibars, steady.

Table with weather forecasts for various locations including London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other major UK cities. Columns include location, temperature, wind, and other weather conditions.

HOME NEWS

Sir Arthur Harris returns to attack Social contract 'must be more than words'

Frank Roberts... Sir Arthur Harris... Social contract... must be more than words... Harris returns to attack...

Immigrants' eagerness for promotion and better pay offends the local sense of hierarchies among the workers of Leicester Undercurrents of resentment feed Asians' strike

From David Leigh... Leicester... Immigrants' eagerness for promotion... Undercurrents of resentment feed Asians' strike...

In brief Sir H. Langton changes name

Sir Henry Langton... Wiltshire County Council... changes name...

Labour choice

Mr Emlyn Sherrington... Labour choice... Sherrington...

Circus hand savaged

Mr Edward Davies... Circus hand savaged... Davies...

Parachutists grounded

Poor weather made flying impossible... Parachutists grounded... weather...

Actor leaving 'Z cars'

John Slater... Actor leaving 'Z cars'... Slater...

Strike threat by bus crews over assaults

By Raymond Fernan... Strike threat by bus crews over assaults... Fernan...

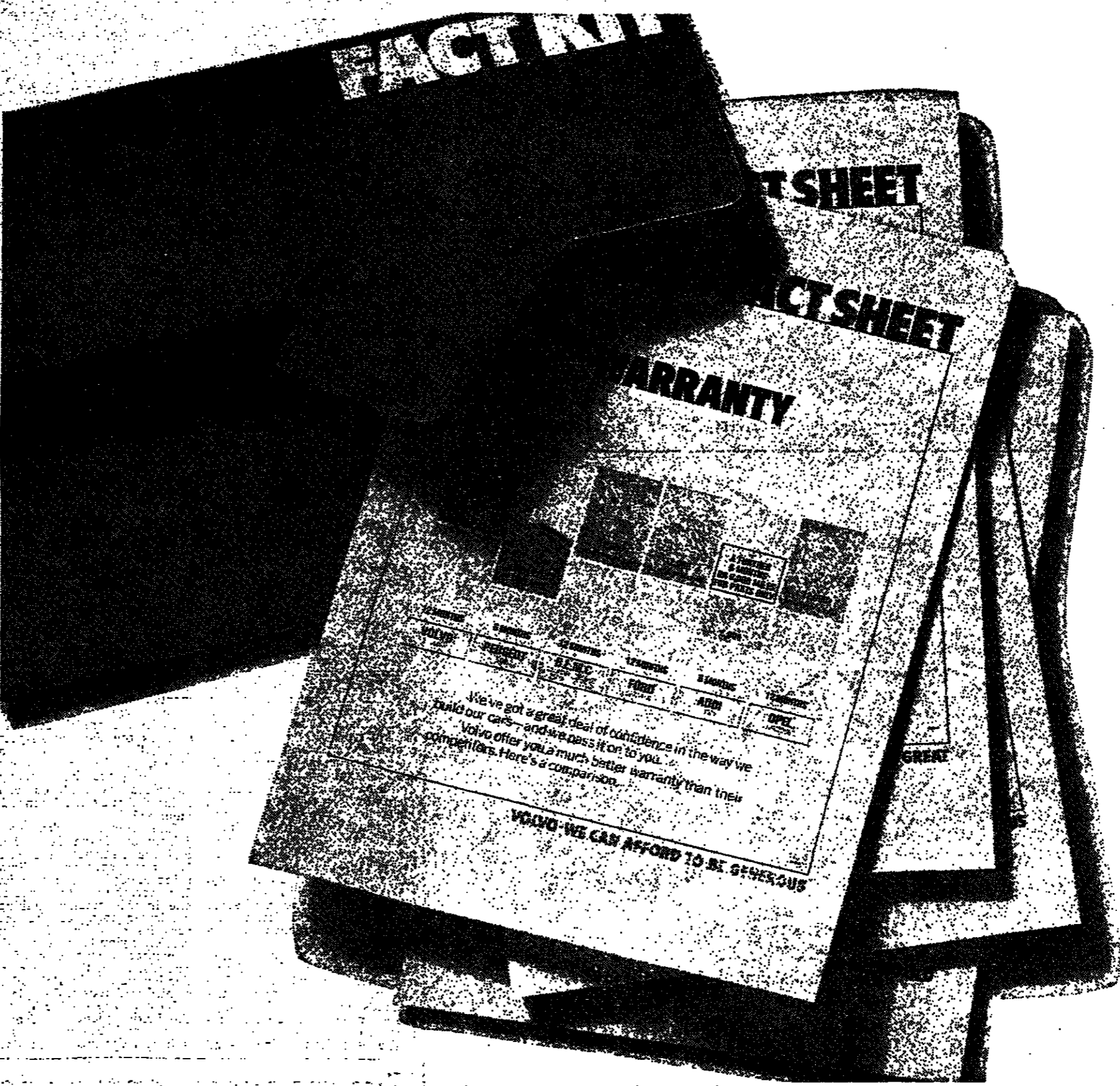
Flamboyant Mr Fairbairn comes in from the cold

Reality, Mr Nicholas Fairbairn... Flamboyant Mr Fairbairn comes in from the cold... Fairbairn...

Regional report

Ronald Faux Edinburgh

... Ronald Faux... Edinburgh... Regional report...



The Volvo Fact Kit. We guarantee it will impress even loyal Rover, Triumph, Audi, Peugeot and Granada owners. Since we first published the Volvo Fact Kit twelve months ago, it's been hard keeping up with demand. In fact, we're now bringing out the fourth edition with updated comparisons of the Volvo 144 with the Rover 2200, the Triumph 2000, the Audi 100 LS, the Peugeot 504 and the Granada. Not everyone who's seen it has bought one of our cars. But all have learnt something to their advantage. Which two litre has the most safety features. Which has the best braking system. Which depreciates slowest. Which performs quickest. Which travels farthest on a gallon. Which is easiest to park. Which has the best warranty. Which lives the longest. Which is the most reliable. All the figures are drawn from impartial sources. None of them is subject to the usual manufacturer's bias. It's a welcome change from the extravagant productions everyone else sends out. And it's free.

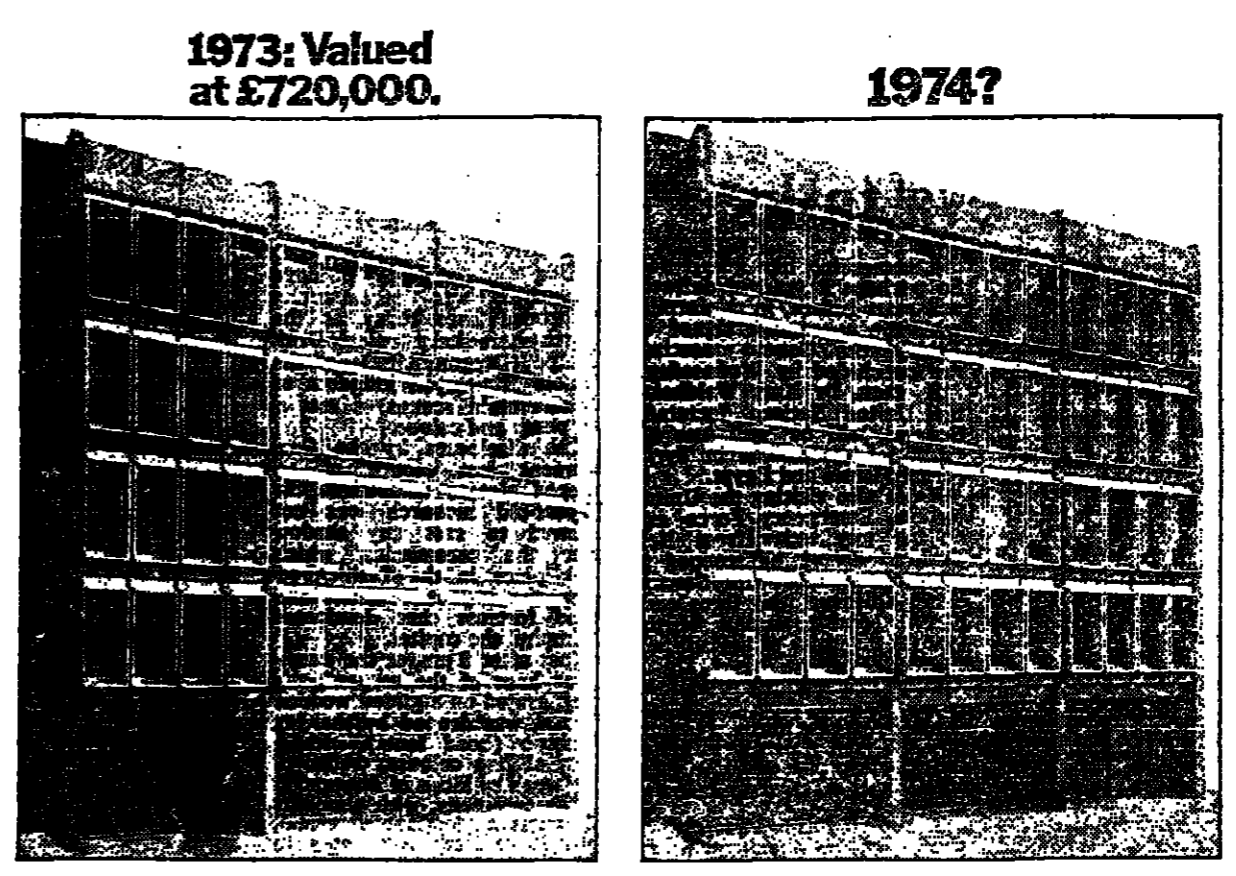
WEST EUROPE

President Giscard forges alliance with Herr Schmidt to halt disintegration of the Community

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, June 2. Franco-German relations got off to a new start—some newspapers even speak of an important turning point—with the six hours of talks in Paris at the weekend between President Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor. The President's object in having these talks within a few days of taking office was to halt the disintegration of the European Community. Since Britain's position towards Europe was now more served and unambiguous than during the election campaign, progress in European reconstruction lies by way of a deeper, considered entente with the Federal Republic. This entente is developing. The violent clash between Herr Schmidt and M. Michel de Certeau, President Pompidou's Foreign Minister, at the Washington conference earlier this year is now a thing of the past. M. Giscard d'Estaing told the press from the steps of the Elysee Palace on Saturday: "We agreed that the construction of Europe is a fundamental objective of both our Governments. To maintain and consolidate Community achievements is not enough; in order to avoid falling back, it is necessary to go forward. "We also agreed that the Community should demonstrate its personality and cohesion, not only by returning to strict application of the rules which govern economic and commercial relations between member countries, but also by adopting and defending common positions on the big monetary, economic, and political problems. "Herr Schmidt obtained an assurance that France would not go the way of Italy and Denmark in resorting to protectionist measures to check the mounting deficit in its balance of payments. "I told him this was out of the question", the French President said, in answer to a question. "We noted that it was only through a return to internal stability by the economies of member countries that the equilibrium disrupted by last October's events could be restored. "France," he said, had not requested financial assistance from Germany, nor had it been offered. "There was apparently no discussion in Paris of a possible reevaluation of the German Mark. The Chancellor and the President were anxious not to lay themselves open to the charge that they were setting up a kind of Paris-Bonn axis and taking decisions without their partners. However, with Italy and Britain out of the running, only France and Germany are in a position to make any initiatives. "Agreement in Paris was vastly helped by the close personal relations between the two men, who are on a Christian name basis. "We have known each other for some years", Herr Schmidt observed, "and we are used to dealing with difficult situations. Our talks were marked by great cordiality, which is natural between friends. "Where President Pompidou and Mr. Heath had a natural liking for one another, which smoothed over many difficulties, M. Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schmidt get on well and neither of them has very much time for Mr. Wilson. This is something which should make the British Government stop and think if once again it is not to miss the bus in Europe. "The entente cordiale between Paris and London has now given place to a revival of the exemplary Franco-German relations of a few years back. With Britain conspicuously absent from the Paris talks, it is ironic that two leaders spoke to one another in English.

Opposition groups in Spain agree joint plan

From Our Correspondent Madrid, June 2. Widespread strikes can be expected throughout Spain next autumn, a representative of the powerful outlawed Workers Commissions has said at a secret news conference in southern Spain. He spoke of the strike plans at a recent meeting of southern Spain's opposition leaders somewhere in Andalusia, to which a number of foreign journalists were invited. Representatives of nine underground political organizations attended. The meeting, called by the Socialist Alliance of Andalusia (ASA), was the biggest secret regional meeting of the illegal opposition since last autumn, when police arrested more than 100 people who were alleged to be trying to form a Catalanian opposition in a Barcelona church. Those at the Andalusia meeting represented the ASA, the Workers Commissions, the Red Flag communist organization (Trotskyite), the Carlist Party, the Communist Party of Spain (Moscow influenced), the International Communist Party of Spain (Maoist), the General Workers' Union, a socialist trade union, and the Spanish Socialist Party. A statement issued after the meeting said: "The forces joining together against injustice, arbitrary decisions, corruption and brutality are ever larger. Their strength will show up the false offers of 'reconciliation' made by the Arias Navarro Government and nothing can distract their attention from their democratic goals." Speakers predicted a hot autumn for economic reasons. They, and the joint statement, placed considerable emphasis on Spain's economic troubles as they affect workers. Asked why the "democratic opposition" attending the meeting did not consist of representatives of the more conservative opposition groups, the Socialist Party representative replied: "The exclusion of the Christian Democrats and others like them is not intentional. "They are welcome, but they simply do not exist as an important political force in Andalusia. Our only common aim is freedom from dictatorship. "The representative of the ASA, who has formed last autumn to unify opposition in the region, topple the regime and promote a democratic state, said: "Only in the unity of all democratic groups is there any hope of overthrowing the regime." Recalling promises of liberalization made in February by Señor Carlos Arias Navarro, the Spanish Premier, he added: "The regime cannot stand a true liberalization process. Similar promises were made in 1940, 1945, 1948 and 1966. They were all lies. Arias is simply the last one to make such promises. A democratic explosion is bound to come." Referring to Portugal, he claimed that officers of the Spanish armed forces were becoming less zealous in their support of the regime. He said he did not expect the Spanish Army to carry out a coup d'état as in Portugal, but he thought it was possible the Army might not interfere when the moment of change came.



Are last years' valuations worth the paper they're written on?

With the fluctuations which have taken place in commercial property values in recent months, there is a very real need for frequent and reliable valuations. In many cases values have fallen by up to 40% or more on last year's levels. For over 100 years now, Savills have been producing valuations for some of the top companies in the country and regular top-up valuations in times when values change rapidly. Savills have over 350 people working in 17 offices here and in Europe. These people can give you advice and provide answers to all questions on property including valuations, investments, purchases, sales and lettings. Savills mean business.

SAVILLS COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURAL RATING & BUILDING SURVEYORS 20 Grosvenor Hill, Berkeley Square, London W1. 01-499 8644.

Leyland strikers allowed to meet in Spain

From Our Correspondent Madrid, June 2. The Government agreed at the weekend to allow striking British Leyland workers to meet in the northern city of Pamplona after their labour dispute had increased tension between the town and state. The workers at Leyland's plant, who were locked out until Tuesday for refusing to obey an order to return to work after a previous lock-out, were allowed to meet at a police office on Tuesday, according to Clifa, the semi-official news agency. When 1,500 strikers gathered Friday in Pamplona Cathedral, with the permission of the Roman Catholic church authorities, to discuss their pay claim, the police entered the cathedral and drove them out. A note issued by the Archbishop of Pamplona pointed out that he had not given permission to enter the cathedral, and that the Concordat between Spain and the Vatican specifies that police must not carry out any official act inside a church without the permission of the hierarchy, "except in a case of great necessity".

Italian authorities face up to neo-fascist threat

From Peter Nichols Rome, June 2. The huge military parade marking the twenty-eighth anniversary of the establishment of the Italian republic took place today amid reports of neo-fascist plans to destroy democracy and authoritarian warnings of the danger of economic collapse. For the first time since the foundation of the republic, the authorities, backed by large sections of public opinion, appear to have faced up to the measure of neo-fascism, if not to that of the economic crisis. An immediate impulse was provided by the killing of seven people at Brescia on Tuesday when a bomb thought to have been planted by the extreme right exploded during an anti-fascist demonstration. The newspapers today are full of accounts of right-wing plots said to have been aimed at bringing down democratic institutions by continued killings and violence and at installing some form of direct presidential rule. The seriousness of neo-fascist plotting has yet to be ascertained reliably. Certainly for years the extreme right has been engaged in a whole series of acts of violence and such acts would certainly have had some broader aim than just keeping the ghosts of the past alive. There is now a conviction that terrorism must be stopped and that the state must stop appearing to ignore and even condone the dangerous practices of right-wing extremists. Signor Paolo Taviani, the Minister of the Interior, acted promptly by setting up yesterday a new inspectorate to deal with terrorism. President Leone, in his message today to the armed forces, pointed out that such criminal acts as the Brescia bomb were due to the "irresponsible action of squalid terrorist minorities, directed at dismantling the institutions of the state." He went on to express his confidence in the sense of balance of the majority. The participation of the ordinary citizen is also seen to be necessary in the second great problem facing the country, that of tackling the threatened collapse of the economy.

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Portuguese to hold talks with Frelimo

From Our Correspondent Lusaka, June 2. Talks on the future of Mozambique are to start on Wednesday between representatives of Frelimo, the liberation movement, and the Portuguese in the Zambian capital Lusaka. The head of Frelimo, Mr. Amaro Machel, arrived in Lusaka today and Dr. Mario Soares, the Portuguese Foreign Minister is expected on Wednesday. Greeting the Frelimo leader at Lusaka airport, President Banda of Zambia said that this is the first time that the Portuguese authorities had recognized without Frelimo cooperation there could be no peace in Mozambique. He said that Dr. Soares was in the "age of democracy" and that the people of Zambia did not see Mr. Ian Smith of Rhodesia, John Vorster of South Africa, and the deposed Portuguese Premier, Dr. Caetano, because they were white. "It is that they do against our people, our fellow men, that we criticize," he said. Dar es Salaam, June 2.—Mr. Samora Machel, leader of Frelimo, said his movement had accepted the new Lisbon junta's offer of a ceasefire, thus becoming the second guerrilla group in Portugal's three African territories to undertake formal negotiations. "We are not going to discuss independence with the Portuguese," he told a press conference. "That is our inalienable right. Our position on this is clear. "The Portuguese must negotiate with Frelimo to study the mechanism of transferring power to the people of Mozambique. Peace in Mozambique is inseparable from independence. —Reuter. Our Paris Correspondent writes: Dr. Mario Soares, the Portuguese Minister, met President Senghor of Senegal for 45 minutes yesterday at his private flat in Paris. The Minister was returning to Lisbon after the first round of negotiations in London with representatives of the Guinea-Bissau independence movement. He also met Mr. Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister. President Senghor expressed a "reasoned optimism" about the outcome of the London negotiations after his meeting with Dr. Soares and hoped Portugal would soon open discussions with the independence movements in Mozambique and Angola. "Problems there are more complex," he said. "But I think that if positive results are achieved with Guinea-Bissau, these will influence negotiations with Angola and Mozambique."

Basque kills policeman

San Sebastián, June 2.—A policeman was shot and killed today while searching for four Basque separatists who stole a company payroll on Friday. The officer was one of several Civil Guards who tried to stop three men for questioning. One of the suspects opened fire as they fled.—UPI.

European Law Report Week ending May 31 Court of Justice of the European Communities

Whether EEC rule on alcohol content valid

Protestant Bielefeld (Federal Republic of Germany) Handelsgerichtsausschuss Firma Koenig. Reference for preliminary decision from the German Federal Fiscal Court, Bundesfinanzhof. The President, Judge R. von Koerber, and Judges A. Conzelmann, R. Metzger, J. Mertens-Wilmars, F. Pescatore, H. Scher, C. O'Daugh, Lord MacIntyre. An order had been made by the German Federal Fiscal Court three years ago relating to the validity of Council Regulation and to the position relating to the classification of certain alcoholic beverages. The facts underlying the above were as follows: Koenig had imported into Germany a quantity of "neat spirit, for human consumption, made of alcohol derived from molasses and made fit for consumption by diluting with water." German customs office at Bielefeld did not at first levy customs duties, on the ground that this was a spirituous beverage. In the meantime, a position in the meaning of the customs law (C) of the common customs law. However, after sampling the spirit and deciding that this was chemically pure and neutral, it was classified as "neat spirit" under position 22.09 (A) of the common customs tariff. The customs authorities held that this was an agricultural product on which the duty of customs duties was not levied by European Economic Community law, and decided to grant a customs duty of DM110.25 per 100 litres. Subsequent proceedings before the fiscal court of first instance were in favour of the importer's claim that no customs duties should be levied. On appeal by the customs authorities, the case went before the Federal Fiscal Court which, in turn, decided to refer the case to Luxembourg.

Position 22.09 of the tariff read as follows: Ethyl alcohol or neutral spirits, not denatured, of less than 50 degrees, and other alcoholic beverages. Compound alcoholic preparations (concentrated extracts) for the manufacture of beverages: a. Ethyl alcohol, not denatured, of less than 80 degrees. b. Compound alcoholic preparations (known as "concentrated extracts"). c. Spirituous beverages: 1. Rum, arrack, tafia; 2. gin; 3. whiskey; 4. others. However, Article 38 of the EEC Treaty reads as follows: 1. The common market shall extend to agricultural products and agricultural products. "Agricultural products" means the products of the soil, of stockfarming and of fisheries, and products of first-stage processing directly related to these products. 2. Save as otherwise provided in Articles 39 to 46, the rules laid down for the establishment of the common market shall apply to agricultural products. 3. The products subject to the provisions of Articles 39 to 46 are listed in Annex II to this Treaty. Within two years of the entry into force of this Treaty, however, the Council shall, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, decide what products are to be added to this list. 4. The operation and development of the common market for agricultural products must be accompanied by the establishment of a common agricultural policy among the member states. The date of entry into force of the EEC Treaty being January 1, 1958, the time limit of two years laid down in Article 38 (3) expired on December 31, 1959. On December 18, 1959, the Council enacted Regulation 781/59, adding various products to Annex II of the Treaty. The regulation was not published in the Official Journal until January 30, 1961. Article 1 of that regulation purports to add to

Annex II of the Treaty, under the headings 22.08 and 22.09 of the Brussels nomenclature, the following products: ethyl alcohol or neutral spirits, whether or not denatured, of any strength obtained from agricultural products listed in Annex II to the Treaty, excluding liqueurs and other spirituous beverages and compound alcoholic preparations (known as "concentrated extracts") for the manufacture of beverages. According to the German Federal Fiscal Court, there arose the question whether Regulation 781/59 was valid. It had been published in the Official Journal on January 30, 1961, when the time limit set in Article 38 of the EEC Treaty for additions to Annex II had already expired. The fact that the regulation was to take retroactive effect on December 31, 1959, when the Council still had the power to add to Annex II was irrelevant. In any case, according to Article 191, regulations shall enter into force on the date specified in them or, in the absence thereof, on the twentieth day following their publication. The German court further inquired what were the criteria for distinguishing between the products listed under the tariff positions 22.08 (A) (ethyl alcohol) and 22.09 (C) (spirituous beverages) respectively. Judgment. The questions concerned the validity of Council Regulation 781/59 and the interpretation of this regulation and of Common Customs Tariff position 22.09-A-II and 22.09-C-V-B. On the question of the validity of the regulation, the Council had, during the oral part of proceedings, argued that the regulation had in any event become part and parcel of valid Community law rules through Article 1 of the Treaty of Accession which provided that the new countries became parties to the treaties establishing those communities "as amended or supplemented".

Basque kills policeman

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THE GREAT AMERICAN DISASTER THAT WASN'T.

The crises that in recent months have led to toppled governments and ailing national economies all over Europe have, paradoxically, had little effect on the multinational companies with large investments there. Europa tomorrow sheds some light on the healthy condition of this "invisible America", and throws into relief the "invisible Europe" forming in its wake. Furthermore, in an exclusive interview, Dr Luns, Secretary General to NATO, discusses the question of Europe's defence; and, with the World Cup approaching, Europa also exposes how much German method is making of soccer madness.

Every month, Europa deals with economic, financial and industrial affairs, and allied social questions, as they affect the total European business community. Europa is written by the most respected writers in Europe, and is published simultaneously with the newspapers they represent: The Times (London), Le Monde (Paris), La Stampa (Turin) and Die Welt (Hamburg). Articles are up-to-date and translated into the mother-tongue immediately before publication in each of the four countries. Altogether, Europa is a unique newspaper, the only one written exclusively for, and by, Europeans. Make sure you read it by buying The Times tomorrow. As you dig deeper into Europe's future, you'll discover how much gold there really is in them, far hills. The first truly European newspaper.



OVERSEAS

Syrians and Israelis make progress in chilly Geneva talks

From Alan McGregor Geneva, June 2
Israeli and Syrian delegates are making progress, without obvious hitches, in their discussions in Geneva concerning the detailed implementation of the agreement for a disengagement of forces.

Arab guerrillas killed after Galilee manhunt

From Our Correspondent Tel Aviv, June 2
Israeli troops reportedly killed two armed infiltrators from Lebanon after a manhunt in western Galilee today.

Marshal Tito lauds town which saved his life

From Dossa Trevisan Belgrade, June 2
President Tito today visited the central Bosnian town of Drvar, where 30 years ago he had his closest escape from occupying troops in World War Two.

Chinese posters attack provincial leaders

From David Bonavia Canton, June 2
A campaign of wall posters criticizing management staff in factories, companies and administrative offices has recently begun in the Canton area of China, according to local sources.

Assassination plot casts no shadows as a young monarch takes throne of his Himalayan kingdom
The Dragon King is enthroned in Bhutan

From Michael Hornsby Thimphu, Bhutan, June 2
King Jigme Wangchuk was ceremonially enthroned here today as the fourth hereditary ruler—Druk Gyalpo (Dragon King)—of the remote Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan amid scenes of medieval pomp and splendour.



King Jigme Singye Wangchuk wearing the Raven Crown of Bhutan.

Just after 9 am, at the auspicious hour of the morning, the king seated on a gilded wooden throne, was draped by the Jey Khepmo (head lama) with a scarf of five colours, traditionally worn by kings of Bhutan. The ceremony, with elements of ancient Bhutanese ritual, took its present form only in 1907, when Sir Ugyen Wangchuk, the present king's great-grandfather, became the first hereditary ruler of Bhutan and founded the Wangchuk dynasty.

Superiors say Jesuit can continue as Nixon aide

From Our Own Correspondent Washington, June 2
Father John McLaughlin has made his peace with the Society of Jesus. His superiors have decided that he can continue to live in the Watergate building complex in Washington and make speeches defending the President and that he may continue to work for the White House as special assistant.

Malaysian policy of uniting races backed by China

From Our Correspondent Kuala Lumpur, June 2
Tun Abdul Razak, the Malaysian Prime Minister, said on his return from China today, that Malaysia's prestige had never been higher. The success of its foreign policy was "internationally recognized".

In brief

Kenyatta threat to crush rival

Nairobi, June 2—President Kenyatta says he will physically "crush" any person who attempts to form a rival political party to contest Kenya's coming general elections.

Gin duel kills three

Fort Walton Beach, Florida, June 2—The bartender who refereed a gin drinking contest in which two drinkers died of a heart attack, his widow says that he might be prosecuted for manslaughter for officiating at the contest.

OAU chief resigning

Addis Ababa, June 2—Mr Nzo Ekangaki, the secretary-general of the Organization of African Unity, is resigning for personal reasons at the end of August. He has held the office for two years.

12 die in bus crash

Istanbul, June 2—Twelve people were killed when a bus filled with students crashed into a city bus in the south Aegean town of Denizli. Another 24 were injured.

Drug traffickers shot

Tehran, June 2—Two people captured by military tribunals of trafficking in heroin were executed by firing squad here today, the Iranian authorities announced.—Agence France Presse.

New Premier named

Luxembourg, June 2—Grand Duke Jean today asked Gaston Thorn, his Foreign Minister, to form a new government to replace the outgoing Cabinet of M Pierre Werner.

Avalanche kills two

Briançon, June 2—Two unnamed climbers were killed today when an avalanche swept them off the 6,700ft Calotte des Aiguilles in the French Alps near here.

Typhoid epidemic

Berlin, June 2—The number of typhoid cases among students at the University of Göttingen rose to 18 today, the city's health authorities announced.

UN warning on low level of world food stock

From Our Own Correspondent Rome, June 2
The present uncertainty in the world food situation is one of the principal elements in the crisis analysed in a United Nations document issued here today.

Mr Whitlam's majority cut to five seats

From Our Correspondent Melbourne, June 2
The expected Labour majority in the House of Representatives of seven seats was reduced to five today by a surprise result in the last seat to be counted, Stirling in Western Australia.

Women's Appointments also on page 26

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Translator (French) French mother tongue. £1,900 + L.V. + Bonus. Full-time position. 01-283 7000 or 01-283 8101.

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Secretary position often required to travel abroad requires personal facilities as well as typing, flexible hours by arrangement.

P.A./BILINGUAL SECRETARY

London, for Senior Partner of International Consulting Engineers. Varied duties in all areas of French and English. Five years' secretarial experience required...

PARTNER'S SECRETARY

Young, biling. Mafair solicitor specializing in firms and music requires Secretary to get on with her who also has good shorthand. Difficult to find...

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL

SECRETARY for the Department of Medical Illustration. An interesting, unusual and important post dealing with fluorography and X-ray applications to Medicine...

COMFORT CRIME AND CASE

£2,000 p.a. plus. Anglo Sec. wanted for Partner in Crime, new job, luxurious office, interesting, client contact, P.A. work. N.W.1

SECRETARY for compensation manager

of Insurance Co. based in London. Secretarial duties must be varied and interesting. Interest in publishing to include public relations and general office work...

CONFIDENTIAL, related college leaver

with good secretarial skills, needs a first class West End firm to look after her. She is a graduate of a top office in her present absence...

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for PR Manager of large international Co. Victoria, must be able to cope with boss in and have good shorthand. Salary £2,200 p.a. plus fringe benefits...

SECRETARY/PA required by home Director of a top publishing company

allied to photographic model. She is a graduate of a top office in her present absence. Salary £2,200 p.a. plus fringe benefits...

SENIOR ADDITIONAL Secretary (age 25+)

experienced in Director level to work for Trade Federation in Victoria, S.W.1. Own beautiful office. Salary £2,200 p.a. plus fringe benefits...

ADVERTISING Agencies in S.W.3

require a young Secretary for non-creative jobs in retained and happy atmosphere. Salary £1,800 p.a. plus fringe benefits...

TEMP. SECRETARIES & TYPISTS

Hours, days, weeks - evenings and weekends for Hilton Hotel, Agency. To £150 p.w. - 800 7911

RECEPTIONIST/PA/Secretary for a famous actor

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WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS SECRETARIAL

A hundred years of quiet revolution among the headmistresses



Miss Joyce Bradbury

Next weekend the Association of Headmistresses is holding its centenary conference at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London. It is a gathering of an assembly of staid ladies with traditional views, sensibly shed, well headmistresses (like mothers-in-law) have learnt to live with a blunter image.

A book about that 100 years, *Reluctant Revolutionaries*, by Mary Price and Nonna Glenday (Pitman, £3, published tomorrow), shows that members often had ideas ahead of their time. But it could be argued that they sometimes had what we now think are the right ideas for what we now considered the wrong reasons. For example, they were adamant that non-examinable, creative subjects must be time-tabled in girls' schools, and that too much emphasis must not be put on competing. But not being competitive was a Good Thing only for young ladies, not for young gentlemen. However, in 1904 the headmistresses stressed that arousing all children's interest in the world around them, in discovery, and developing individuality was what education should be about. They were against mere fact-learning.

Unlike headmasters, headmistresses never split into top people's schools and the rest. Though started by and for heads of independent schools for young ladies, the association welcomed heads of new types of schools as these emerged. Its policy on women's rights was "no action" for the first 35 years of its existence. Then, in 1909, a stable group sent a petition to Asquith: "...the headmistress is relegated to the same class as the male convict and lunatic; she may—may, must—do the work of the citizen but may not have a citizen's privileges... We desire to see the whole work of the country perfected, as it can only be when the gifts of women as well as those of men can be freely given for its service."

More recently, the association has fought for full acceptance of part-time teachers in schools, and for a fairer admission policy towards female medical school applicants. The AHM gave evidence to

found that co-education had a lot to learn from girls' education, like "its emphasis on developing creative imagination and on the enrichment of life. I wouldn't now want to return to single sex, selective education, but the values of girls' education must not be lost."

She thinks boys gain more than girls from co-education. "Girls do worse in maths and science in mixed than in single sex schools. The reasons? Varied, but all psychological, early childhood conditioning. Schoolgirls have a built-in inferiority complex; boys know more about how TV works, how to repair motorbikes, so girls expect to do less well than the boys, and so they do less well."

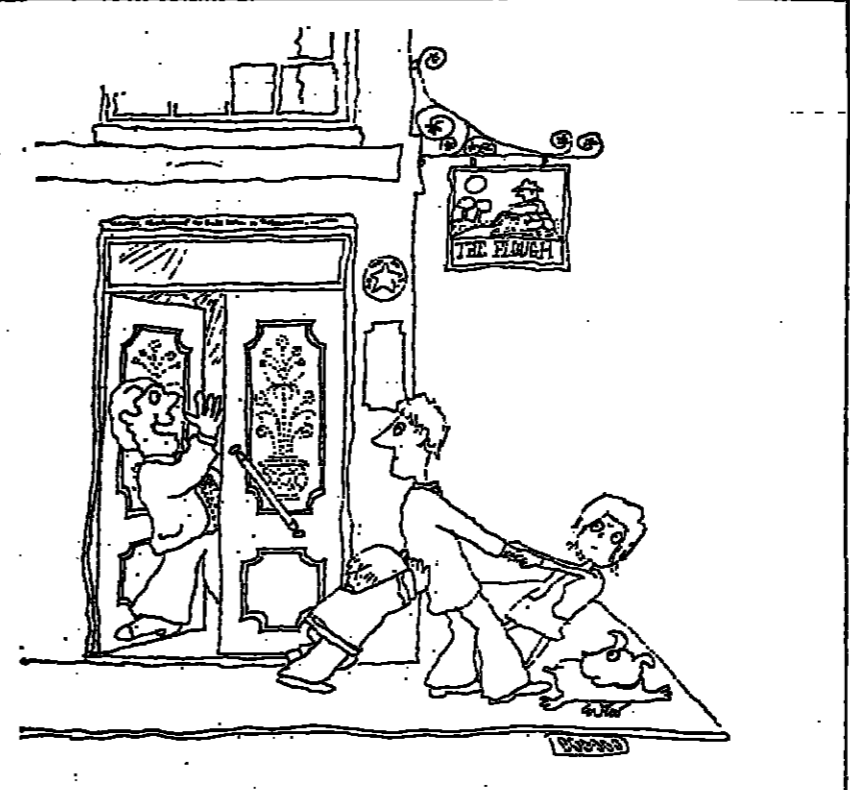
Research into ways of persuading air's not to opt out of subjects which "facilitate the way into higher education and into jobs which influence our environment" is one of the issues Miss Bradbury would like to look into when in office; other main issues now are likely to be concerned with equality. "It is taken for granted that a headmistress of a mixed school has a male deputy, but not the other way round. Why not? And the number of headmistresses is dwindling as more schools go co-ed. There is a reluctance to appoint women as heads of mixed schools, but that isn't the only reason. Women have to be braver than men to apply, yet they tend to be more hesitant about their abilities. Women prefer teaching to administration (men possibly do, too, but they need the money more) so fewer suitable ones apply for headships."

Headmasters of girls' schools, and male deputies, can now be affiliates of the AHM, and the headmasters' and headmistresses' associations send observers to each other's meetings and generally cooperate closely. Is there, then, any logic in having single-sex professional organizations? Is there not a case for amalgamating? The issue does not come up for official discussion, but the president-elect points out that the AHM is as thriving and forward-looking as ever.

"My election may be a manifestation of a new era, of members' evolutionary thinking. Leading the association into its second century is a tremendous challenge—and very exciting. The role of the head has changed, and, possibly, the role of the association."

Ruth Miller

Understanding the special difficulties of the lone father



Any mother who tries to raise a family on her own knows the mental and economic sufferings, but at least her plight is usually accepted as fairly commonplace. Yet for the 60,000 fathers in this country who are bringing up their children without a mother, recognition of their situation is almost the hardest cross to bear. Until recently, society hardly accepted this minority group, and although it has done so, it has tended not to realize that many men actually want to raise their children on their own, and not let them be put into care.

Last year the National Council for the Unmarried Mother and Her Child changed its name to the National Council for One Parent Families. Its offices in North London were being inundated with pleas of help from lone fathers, and its director, Margaret Bramall, was aware of the great isolation they felt. "To a large extent it is because it is considered odd for a man to stay at home looking after the children, whereas it's more tolerable for a woman since others know how to react to her."

It is this alienation that Nick Carter, a former print worker, faces. He was forced to give up his job to look after five young children when he and his wife parted. "Now my whole life is the kids. I've got nothing in common with my old friends." Many men in this position do feel totally cut off, especially from male society, where the natural flow of chat is football rather than, say, nappy rash. "The trouble", Mr Carter says, "is that we don't have the equivalent of a *Woman's Hour* or women's page to turn to."

Some men carry on working. A university lecturer in Birmingham was more fortunate in that he had long holidays in which to look after his two children, but he is still restricted from leaving them in the evenings. He spoke of others in a worse situation, including one man who had to give up his job and whose only contact with the outside world is his weekly visit to the British Legion for a drink—he can take the children along and leave them in an adjoining room.

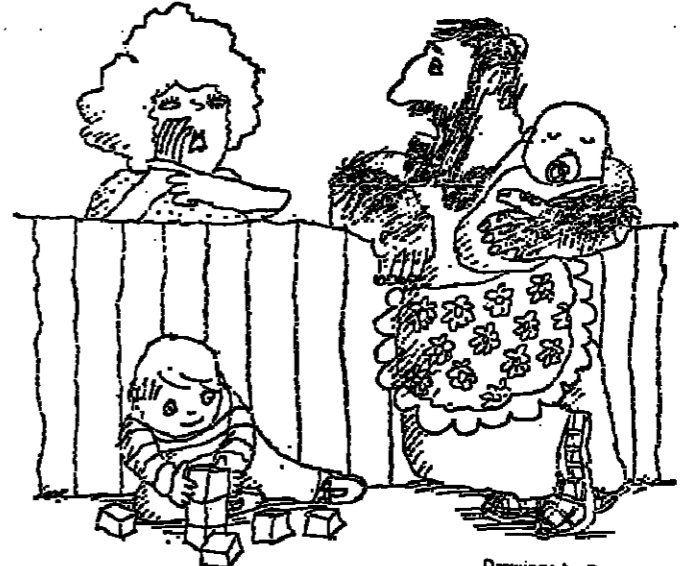
Others better than men, who nearly always think we have lost our dignity if we give up work."

Home helps are just one of the priorities of both the National Council for One Parent Families and Gingerbread. Both also rate highly the necessity for more day nurseries, and Gingerbread is adamant that any special benefits which might be paid to the lone father should be without a means test. For her part, Margaret Bramall emphasized that a man should be able to do part-work while drawing some supplementary benefits.

What about the fathers? Nick Carter mentioned a couple of seemingly small but from his experience vital suggestions. One is that school outings should be free for the lone father, and another is that he should not have to pay for his own evening classes. "I would like to learn a new trade and that's my only chance," he says. "After all, I've got to get back to work some day."

Certainly more flexibility by the authorities would lessen the load. So would more enlightened attitudes by those who so often turn a blind eye to anything family "abnormal". As one lone father put it: "People like to think the world exists of cosy families of mother, father, two children. But for so many, it's not like that at all."

Richard Brooks



Drawings by David McKee

Appointments Vacant
GENERAL VACANCIES
HARBOUR MASTER
REQUIRED
Challenging opportunity in unique environment.
Salary negotiable according to age and experience from £3,000 p.a.

A CHANCE TO FLY
The following positions are currently open:
CUSTOMER LIAISON
Sales and liaison positions in the busy dept. of an international trading company in London.

Religious Book Editor
Lutterworth Press is seeking a Religious Book Editor.
The successful candidate will be responsible for developing a substantial and wide-ranging ecumenical list of publications and will work directly under the General Manager.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
We are looking for a young man or woman with some commercial experience to assist the Manager of our Central Distribution Department.

INTERNATIONAL AUDITOR
Full handling qualifications and some experience in auditing in the U.K. and abroad.

RETIRED FROM BANKING OR STOCKBROKING?
Are you a retired Banker or Stockbroker seeking an interesting and challenging position?

BRAND MANAGER
Marketing
Expanding International Company with exciting new products and a background of engineering and sales.

CUSTOMER LIAISON
Born as a link between the young production team of the company and the customer.

ACCOUNTANCY
CRIPPS SEARS & ASSOCIATES
Senior Clerk £2,750
Age immaterial, good clerical background required. Prestige company.

HELIICOPTER COMPANY
Located in Belgrade, requires an Accountant/Broker, an immediate position.

OXFORD SOLICITORS
We have a vacancy for an able young man with a first class honours degree in Law.

ACCOUNTS SUPERVISOR
Part-qualified or not plain accountants to make the grade for a big company in Hammersmith.

DOMESTIC BURSAR
Required for September
DIRECT GRANT DAY
to be responsible for catering and domestic staff. Salary by arrangement.

PART-TIME TUTORS
required for September, 1974, in a level
ENGLISH AND ECONOMICS
Queens Place Tutors, 17, Queens Place, London. S.W.7. Telephone 01-584 7196

EXPERIENCED TEACHER OF ENGLISH
A foreign language with good knowledge of English required by private language school for two years from 1 July.

SALES AND MARKETING
Ambitious Car Sales Personnel
(male or female)
REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY.
Previous selling experience essential. AVERAGE EARNINGS £200 PER MONTH.

PUBLISHERS
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Due to an internal promotion, Edward Arnold requires a Representative to visit Universities, Polytechnics and Bookshops in the Midlands, South-West England and Wales.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS
ALANGATE LEGAL STAFF has many years' experience of dealing with most forms of litigation in London and the U.K.

MANAGEMENT AND EXECUTIVE
THEATRICAL AGENCY requires Managers for Television Department. Write in confidence - Box 0031 D, The Times.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS
OXFORD REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
The Committee requires an Administrative Assistant who will be responsible to the Director of Postgraduate Medical Education and Training in the University of Oxford.

LANCHESTER POLYTECHNIC
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND HISTORY
REGISTER OF INDUSTRIAL RECORDS IN COVENTRY AND RELATED AREAS
Applications are invited for a two-year appointment as a Junior Research Fellow for a project sponsored by the Social Science Research Council to compile a register of records relating to engineering and associated industries.

University of Glasgow
DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
ONE YEAR M.ENG. AND DIPLOMA COURSE IN DESALINATION TECHNOLOGY
The above course, leading to the Diploma in Desalination Technology or by completion of the degree of Master of Engineering by continuation and dissertation, aims to provide the student with a thorough grounding in the science behind and the technology of the desalination process.

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University of Salford
LECTURER IN MANAGEMENT STUDIES
PERSONNEL ADDITION
Candidates should be graduates in an appropriate behavioural science degree and should be able to contribute to a developing programme of management courses in Business, Sociology, etc.

GERMANY
English Language Teacher required immediately for private language school in Paderborn. English spoken at home. Applicant must have at least a Level 2 Certificate in German.

DOMESTIC BURSAR
Required for September
DIRECT GRANT DAY
to be responsible for catering and domestic staff. Salary by arrangement.

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EXPERIENCED TEACHER OF ENGLISH
A foreign language with good knowledge of English required by private language school for two years from 1 July.

University of the West Indies - Jamaica
Applications are invited for 3 posts of PROJECT OFFICERS AND PLANNING UNIT. Suitable candidates should be graduates. For the first post, appropriate administrative experience is essential.

Victoria University of Wellington
UNIVERSITY TEACHING AND RESEARCH
LECTURESHIP/SENIOR LECTURESHIP
Applications are invited for the above positions in the Department of Geography and Research Centre. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research in the Department.

University of Glasgow
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
RESEARCH POSTS
TELEVISION COVERAGE OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
Applications are invited for the following research positions in the Department of Sociology. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research in the Department.

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JOB AT AMERSHAM
for judicious, intelligent, calm, practical, non-pompous person of either sex preferably 30-50
A conciliation officer
is required in the Amersham Office of the National House-Building Council to assist in settling disputes between purchasers and house builders.

University of Aberdeen
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL PHYSICS
DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP
Applications are invited for above Studentship in the Department of Medical Physics. Preference will be given to graduates in Chemistry or Physics.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY
Sydney, Australia
Applications are invited for appointment to positions in the field indicated below. The positions are tenable not before 1st January, 1975. It is hoped that appointments will be made before the commencement of the 1975 academic year in March. Later dates of entry on duty may be arranged in special cases.

SENIOR LECTURERS/LECTURERS
PSYCHOLOGY - School of Behavioural Sciences - any field, but candidates with demonstrated excellence in the investigation of human problems (in one or more of the areas of perception, learning, memory, intelligence, etc.) will be preferred. There will be a preference for candidates with significant experience in the professional practice of counselling, or in a closely related area.

HISTORY - School of Historical, Philosophical and Political Studies - applicants should have qualifications and experience in Russian History or Ancient Near Eastern History.

LECTURERS
BIOLOGY - School of Biological Sciences - in the field of molecular biology (preferably with major interest in ultra-structure, genetics, molecular biology and the field of genetics (preferably with interest in population and quantitative genetics and knowledge of teaching with Drosophila).

ENGLISH - School of English and Linguistics - candidates should hold qualifications in English Literature. Preference for one of the positions will be given to an applicant with qualifications in English Literature and Linguistics.

MATHEMATICS - School of Mathematics and Physics - any field of speciality in pure or applied mathematics may be acceptable, but for one of the positions the preferred candidate will be one with qualifications in mathematics and some aspect of mathematics relevant to the solution of current problems in our society.

PHYSICS - School of Mathematics and Physics - the School has particular interests in electronics, biophysics, light-scattering and materials science. Anticipated developments of the teaching programme are in the areas of first year physics and the social implications of science and technology.

POLITICS - School of Historical, Philosophical and Political Studies - applicants should have special interests in Australian politics.

LECTURERS/SENIOR TUTORS
ACCOUNTING - School of Economic and Financial Studies - preference will be given to applicants with interests in management or financial accounting. Some professional experience would be an advantage.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - School of Economic and Financial Studies. Any field.

ECONOMICS - School of Economic and Financial Studies - preference will be given to applicants with interests in urban land economics.

EDUCATION - School of Education - preference will be given to applicants with qualifications and experience in education. Areas of special interest include: curriculum studies or educational measurement and evaluation, but applications in the areas of educational psychology or the reading process will also be considered.

STATISTICS - School of Economic and Financial Studies - any field in mathematical and applied statistics, actuarial studies and demography.

University of Rhodesia
SCHOOL OF ARTS
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Applications are invited for two research fellowships in the Department of Arts. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research in the Department.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS
PUBLIC NOTICES
THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, AND
ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL,
NOTICE OF MEETING
of the General Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Royal Free Hospital.

UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI
CANCELLOR COLLEGE
Applications are invited for the posts of Lecturer in the Department of Education. The successful applicant will be expected to contribute to the teaching and research in the Department.

University of Aberdeen
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL PHYSICS
DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP
Applications are invited for above Studentship in the Department of Medical Physics. Preference will be given to graduates in Chemistry or Physics.

LEGAL NOTICES
No. 001223 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
Matter of THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE v. PATENT OFFICE

NOTICE
The Board of the University of Aberdeen has decided to accept the resignation of the Vice-Chancellor and to appoint a new Vice-Chancellor.

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PERSONNEL MANAGERS
MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS
ADVERTISING AGENCIES
Don't miss the opportunity to fill your senior vacancies of £4,000 plus. Remember this Friday and every Tuesday and Friday The Times will be publishing the £4,000 plus Appointments Page.

ENTERTAINMENTS

For telephone use page 91 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE, 300, 1971. The Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London W.C.2. Tel. 01-237 1234. ... THE DANNY LA RUE SHOW ...

THEATRES

THE DANNY LA RUE SHOW. ... THE FESTIVAL OF HEROTICA. ... THE ROYALTY FOLLOWS ...

CONCERTS

IC.A. ... POETRY INTERNATIONAL 74. ... ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL ...

THEATRES

ACT INN. ... ABEL WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER? ... ALBERT ...

ACT INN. ... ABEL WHERE IS YOUR BROTHER? ... ALBERT ...

ART EXHIBITIONS

DEAN GALLERIES. ... FISCHER FINE ART. ... LASSON GALLERY ...

THE ARTS

A view of Tommy Trinder-land

Thick as Thieves London Weekend

Leonard Buckley Well, I know that Fulham, where we went on Saturday night, is Tommy Trinder land but I never supposed that we should get such a laugh there without his help. ...



Bob Hoskins and John Thaw

Romeo and Juliet Farnham

Charles Lewsen For a quarter of a million pounds, nearly half raised by raffle, coffee morning or private donation, Farnham has acquired a new theatre. ...

Esther Queen Elizabeth Hall

Stanley Sadie No one would assign Esther a specially high place in a canon of Handel's Oratorio. ...

Northern Sinfonia Orchestra Queen Elizabeth Hall

William Mann A delightful concert for a summer evening really means a concert you would not dream of going indoors to hear while the evening was still warm and sunny. ...

Northern Sinfonia Ensemble Wigmore Hall

Paul Griffiths With the rest of the orchestra in the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Northern Sinfonia Ensemble last night played a programme of chamber music for winds. ...

Imogen Cooper Purcell Room

Bryce Morrison Few young pianists dot their 'fs and cross their 'ts more meticulously than Imogen Cooper and throughout her ambitious and wide-ranging recital she showed herself a stickler for accuracy. ...

The Monday Book Waterloo thunderbolt

Sir Herbert Walker's Southern Railway By C. F. Klapper

Who today knows the name Sir Herbert Walker? Few, I imagine, although Walker's work is reflected daily in every railborn commuter's journey from south of the River Thames. ...

at that he did not publish it for all to see and comment upon, instead as Mr Klapper remarks, he "habitually revealed [it] to his colleagues one short step at a time". ...

Ion Trewin

SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS DAVID HOWARTH bestselling author of Trafalgar and A Near Run Thing A magnificent story of heroism and adventure covering fifteen centuries of sea power brilliantly told and beautifully illustrated. Literary Guild Choice. Illustrated with 24 pages of colour and 24 pages of black and white pictures. £3.95

STYLISH MINGO. ... THE MINGO. ... THE MINGO. ...

A loan exhibition of 150 of PETER DE WINT'S (1784-1848) WATERCOLOUR 'Sketches from nature' UNTIL 7 JUNE

FOURD. Whatever you're advertising - a pedigree poodle or a kitten heading a home - put it in the Times Classified Pages. ...

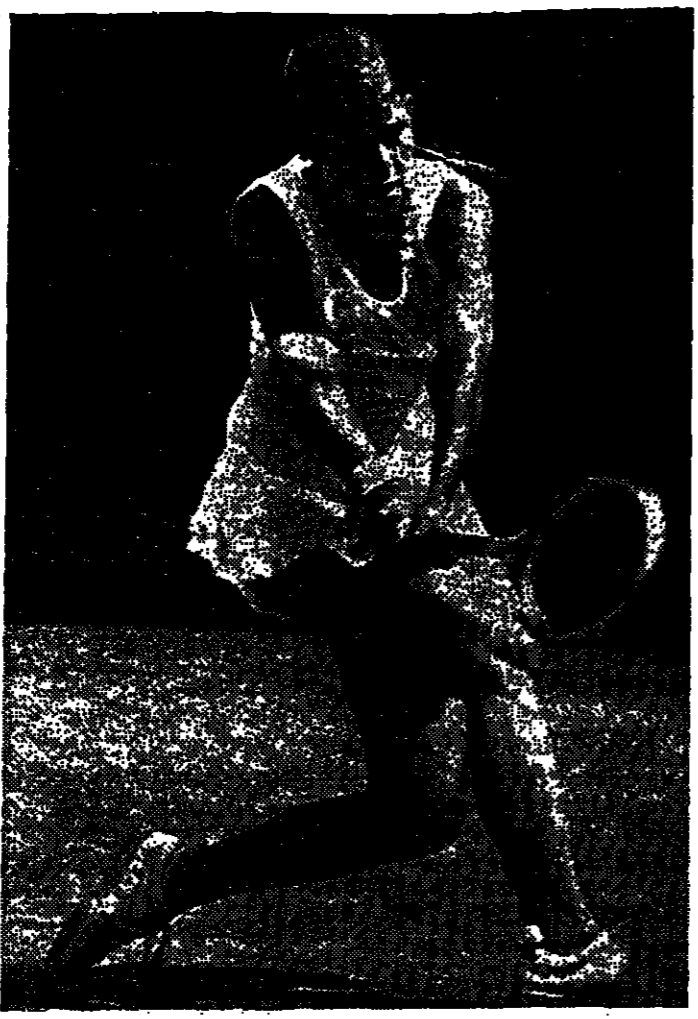
Next of Kin. Harold Pinter directs with flawless accuracy. The National Theatre at the Old Vic.

ENTERTAINMENTS. A large grid of small advertisements for various theatres, including the Royal Opera House, the Old Vic, and the National Theatre. Includes titles like 'The Rocky Horror Show', 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show', 'The Rocky Horror Musical', 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show', 'The Rocky Horror Musical', 'The Rocky Horror Picture Show', 'The Rocky Horror Musical'.

SPORT

Tennis Czechoslovak cannot contain Miss Evert's flawless attack

Rome, June 2.—Christine Evert, of the United States, beat Martina Navratilova, of Czechoslovakia, 6-3, 6-3 to win the women's singles title in the Italian open tennis championships here today.



Two hands are better than one. Miss Evert's strong backhand.

Miss Evert held her service in the first game and broke Navratilova's in the ninth with another precision backhand passing shot to win the semi-final match.

Miss Evert took Miss Navratilova's service in the second and fourth games of the second set on the unbroken centre court.

The growing stature of Miss Barker

By Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent Susan Barker of Peington, Britain's under-18 tennis champion on grass and clay, won £150 by beating Susan Mappin, of Sheffield, 6-2, 7-5 in women's singles at the Surrey grass court championships, sponsored by Rothmans, at Surbiton.

British players, though still reluctant to volley, she is hitting her backhand ground strokes with increasing assurance. She was the more confident player in the final, leading into her first set when Mappin tried to lean away from them.

Rugby Union Lions seem a little ordinary at times

Cape Town, June 2.—The British Lions beat a strong Western Province side 15-10 in a match which their performance did not clearly enhance their prospects for the first international against South Africa here on Saturday.

Against tigerish tackling, the Lions seemed to have no much indecision among the three-quarters. The scrumhalf, Edwards, played an excellent game and his points were over the scrum half when he put the Lions on the attack.

Athletics Miss Lynch left out of British team

By Neil Allen Athletics Correspondent Geoffrey Capes, an Australian, surprised himself by winning the 100 metres in the first round of the British team trials at Crystal Palace.

Miss Lynch, who holds the British record for 100 metres but was slightly injured on Saturday, was left out of the British team who will compete against Romania and West Germany in Bucharest, next Sunday.

Cricket Turner at his Sunday best goes down well

By John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent CHELMSFORD: Gloucestershire (4 runs) beat Essex by 31 runs. Gloucestershire's Sunday cricket was a morning drive down the moorway from Leicester to Chelmsford, a comfortable victory over Essex, which keeps them at the top of the John Player League.

lovely catch at short midwicket by Procter. Turner's 70 was his highest in the Sunday league, a good swinging innings that kept the crowd contented for as long as it lasted.

Derbyshire finish nine short of target

By Peter Marson ILKESTON: Worcestershire (4 runs) beat Derbyshire by nine runs. For a while, a superb innings from Rowe had seemed to put Derbyshire in line for their third victory in the John Player League.

Derbyshire's opening bowlers, Hendrick and Tunnicliffe, came in for some rough handling, with Headley, click and in time, cutting and driving powerfully to the boundary.

Greenidge scores his first century in Sunday League

Gordon Greenidge was the batting star of the day in the John Player League match at Hove. The Hampshire opening batsman hit 102 against Sussex, his first century in this competition.

Northamptonshire offered little resistance and their batting was wrecked by Nicholson and Roberts, who took the first four wickets for 24 and the first seven for 46.

Sussex v Hampshire

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for the Sussex vs Hampshire match.

Kent v Warwick

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for the Kent vs Warwick match.

Saturday's scores

Table listing scores for various cricket matches on Saturday, including Derbyshire vs Essex, Gloucestershire vs Essex, and others.

Benson and Hedges Cup

Table listing scores for Benson and Hedges Cup matches, including North, South, Midlands, and West.

Leicester v Notts

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for the Leicester vs Notts match.

Middlesex v Glamorgan

Table with columns for batting and bowling statistics for the Middlesex vs Glamorgan match.

Yachting

MINOR COUNTRIES: Gloucestershire (4 runs) beat Essex by 31 runs. The team for Bucharest is...

For the Record

Schools cricket: Adair's 121, which was the highest score in the history of the game, was made by...

Athletics

100 METRES: Geoffrey Capes (Australia) 10.9. 200 METRES: Geoffrey Capes (Australia) 22.8.

Hockey

IRELAND: Ireland defeated Scotland 2-0 in the first round of the British team trials.

Golf Muirfield in better shape than most

By Peter Ryde Golf Correspondent The British Amateur golf championship returns to Muirfield today after what seems an incredible gap of 20 years.

Real tennis Seventh title for Angus and Warburg

By Our Real Tennis Correspondent Howard Angus and David Warburg won the amateur real tennis doubles title for the seventh time on Saturday.

Liverpool to play

Liverpool will play Leeds United in the FA Charity Shield at Wembley on August 10.

Shooting

IRISH: Ireland defeated Scotland 2-0 in the first round of the British team trials.

Yachting

MINOR COUNTRIES: Gloucestershire (4 runs) beat Essex by 31 runs.

Thanet

Partners retain identity in new marriage of convenience

By Christopher Warman, Local Government Correspondent

The task facing the new Thanet District Council under local government reorganization was to bring together several different kinds of local authorities, including three boroughs proud of their identity and independence, into one compatible unit. Many of the new local authorities have had considerable difficulty in achieving a similar aim, but Thanet has been fortunate.

The area has two advantages which have enabled the new authority to arrange a successful marriage of convenience rather than the shotgun wedding forced on other districts in Britain. First, Thanet is an easily definable unit, created by the bifurcation of the river Stour; second, it is a predominantly urban area where there has been cooperation for some years between its constituent towns.

ing for Dover, he spent a good deal of time from July, when he was given the post, preparing for the big day. Seven directors were appointed for the various spheres of council activity. Five of them had served with one or other of the three big authorities making up the district, which helped to maintain continuity in the new organization. The directors are for the technical, financial, administrative, environmental, planning, housing and amenities departments—the last demonstrating the importance of the holiday resorts to the future of the district.

Looking back at those early months, councillors and officers alike remember the enormous amount of time spent in considering every detail of the new organization. At the time it seemed they were being too fussy, but they believe now that they are reaping the benefits: everyone knows, collectively and individually, exactly what he is meant to be doing.

Like so many other new authorities, Thanet District Council is having to make do with the council buildings spread all over the area, used by the old authorities. But Margate, the new administrative centre, already had buildings planned as part of a large civic centre, and it is hoped that, despite recent building delays, the new offices will be ready in the late autumn.

That will help to bring about the streamlining that was one of the reasons for reorganization. Another was to end the proliferation of small authorities no longer able to cope with modern needs. Thanet may be the amalgamation of several smaller parts, but those smaller parts live still through their mayors. Indeed, the new council agreed that Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs, concentrating on attracting visitors—be they

holidaymakers or conference delegates—need their "social" mayors.

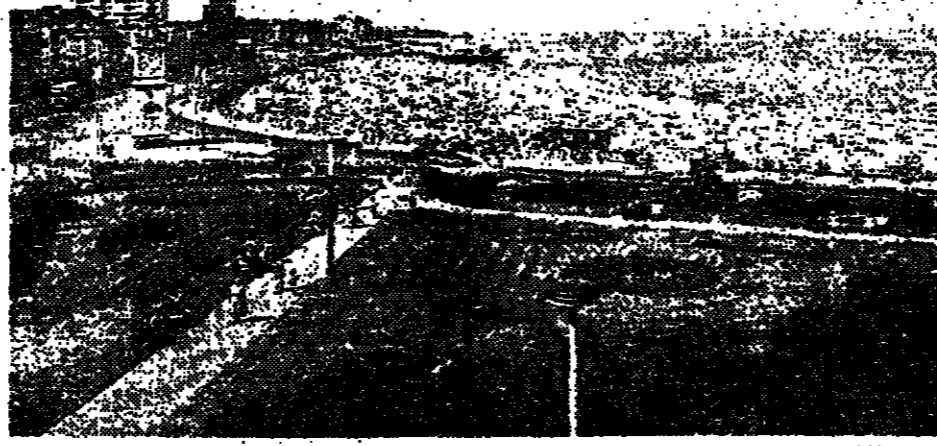
So the council members for Margate, granted its borough charter in 1857, and for Ramsgate, where the charter dates from 1884, were accorded the status of charter trustees with the function of looking after their charters and electing their own mayors. The Government granted Broadstairs its request to become a "successor" parish within the district, and it too appoints a mayor.

At the same time, the chairman of the new district—Mr H. Anish, former Mayor of Margate—and the chairmen of the parish councils, which survive reorganization, and there is the intriguing prospect of Thanet's civic duties tripping over each other on the way to their respective functions. The district has, however, welcomed the creation of these civic successors to ensure the continuation of the ceremonial, historical and social links of the areas they serve.

Their existence allays any fears among local people that the new district's creation would lead to a loss of identity by the parishes. Councilors and officers see the separate identities, with common objects, forming the basis for a strong united whole.

Thanet District Council was given delegated powers by Kent County Council over highways—a prize many other districts have failed to win—and over certain other matters, such as libraries. The districts generally lost powers through reorganization, but Thanet, having accepted the loss, is pleased with the level of agency gained.

At first after April 1 the aim was to maintain services at their existing level, and this has meant bringing them to a uniform standard over the district. Now a de-



The three main towns of the new Thanet district are all resorts: Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs. Above: the marine sands and clock tower at Margate. Right: the beach and open-air swimming pool at Ramsgate. Broadstairs (below) is smaller and quieter. The picture shows Viking Bay.

tailed reappraisal of all the services is in progress. The new council wants to give equal weight to the important leisure industry and to industrial and commercial development. There again a detailed survey is under way, and the initial findings show the two to be complementary. It is easier to attract commercial interest if the amenities are good.

More than 30 per cent of the population are retired, and this emphasizes the need to retain the younger people as well as attract new faces. The council believes that in the past there has been a tendency to look on leisure as just for the visitors. Increasingly amenities are being planned with the resident population in mind as much as the holidaymakers.

The programme of the new district council, planned in the months before April 1, is now under way. In the first month, the authority secured 100 completions in its £7m housing project, buying into the private sector. "We are way ahead of the Greater London Council in this", the council men say confidently, "two reasons for believing that adding that such a project

could not have been so effective until the local authority had sufficient size and resources.

One of the main intentions has been to go out to the people to explain council policies. An experiment in public consultation is to start soon. A plan has been put before the council for a 70-acre caravan and leisure centre just inland from Margate, and it has been decided to hold a public forum before the planning committee decides its attitude. All the district councilors have been invited to attend, to learn the views of the local people.

The first few weeks have been hectic, particularly for the council's officers. There has been a flood of planning applications, many from people waiting until the new council came into being and some from those trying again after being rejected by the old councils.

It is too early to assess whether the 116,000 people of Thanet are benefiting from the new regime. Mr Anish hopes the whole area will benefit in time. Mr Gill gives two reasons for believing that

In a compact area where despite cooperation in the past each part has tended to seek its own solutions, there is the chance to plan properly for the whole area. Second, "this district has assumed full responsibility for the quality of life, beyond what it has to do under reorganization. We are, for example, considering the aftercare of patients—although we do not have to. This is novel."

Finally, like the good salesman a modern chief executive has to be, he declares: "We have a marvellous product to promote. It is an excellent package."

Expanding industry in holiday playground

by William S. Evans

A wireless operator taking part in a Nato exercise signals headquarters: a girl models a swimsuit; a young wife plays tennis; teenagers trigger funfair machines; and men and boys are rapt in a model railway. All have something in common. Their clothing or the equipment they are using may well have been made in Thanet.

The sunny coast of Kent coast that now balances tourism with industry. In recent years all these products—and many more ranging from sausages to fluid handling equipment for marine use—have puz-

zled Thanet on the industrial map. Spearheading the operation is the first of its kind round prosperity today is a Thanet District Council that realizes that the coast must offer more than peppercorn rock to survive out of season.

Working directly under Mr Ian Gill, the chief executive, is a three-man economic development unit headed by Mr Colin Perkin, aged 40, who explains readily: "Thanet is a fringe area of the swinging south-east."

Matching aims to resources

While governments past and present give Thanet "a sympathetic ear", Mr Perkin and the council's management team know they must help to be more practical. "Our first task is to identify the needs of the area", he says. "That means accepting a loyalty to existing employers, for it is no use trying to attract firms that will merely compete for labour with those already here."

Within weeks of taking office the council embarked on a four-stage economic survey. The aim was to assemble statistics, break them down into age groups, fields of employment and so forth and to petition employers for information about their firms. Finally, they intend to advise the firms, the employers' replies and marry-up their requirements with the labour available.

"By the autumn we hope to have found the pattern of development, to decide whether in the fields of industry, offices, leisure or any other category", Mr Perkin adds. "Without special resources to finance policy previous councils have sought diversity in industry. Only that way, they reasoned, could any firm expect a fair slice of the work force."

Along the road in Rovez. Its factory, established soon after Klinger's, exports millions of toys to 50 countries topped by Australia and the EEC; it also caters for a huge home market. Rovez is part of the giant Dunlop-Comber-Marx group, with brand names like Hornby, Scalextric and Frog. Sev-

enty-five per cent of the 1500 workers—including about 750 part-timers—are women. The factory has had to be extended three times in 20 years, and now occupies 133,000 sq ft. Last year a £1m warehouse covering another 64,000 sq ft was opened.

Rank Hilger, part of Rank Precision Industries, producing scientific analytical instruments in a 101,000 sq ft floor space, employs 550 staff. Originally Hilger & Wates, which came to Margate in 1961, it became Rank's in 1969 and is now the group's only analytical instrument factory. A new office block was added last year.

A new estate at Tivoli Road, near the seaford, offers, in six acres, about 60,000 sq ft for industry. At Ramsgate the late council were also proud of their industrial success. At Haine there was originally a private development, whose eight acres are almost complete. Here the variety of firms includes Alfred Crompton Amusement Machines.

One of its proudest contracts is a £250,000 order, gained last year, for making over 1,000 acoustic machines, some worth £1,600 each, for Japan. Rascal, the electronics group, opened its Whitehall Road factory only nine months ago with eight people. Now it employs more than 100 and the group's chairman, Mr E. T. Harrison, has announced plans for a new 60,000 sq ft factory on Ramsgate Industrial Estate, which it hopes to open by mid-1975. Business worth more than £3m, mainly for electrical control units, has already been directed to Thanet and the group's expansion will lead to more jobs.

Factory sites on old airport

The new estate is on a disused commercial airport and is probably Thanet's industrial trump card. There are 50 acres and, though an agreement with Arrowcraft Investments, the council's partners in the project, allows a third for warehousing, there is plenty of flexibility. "We are in a fairly advanced situation, with several agreements under discussion", Mr Perkin says. "A former dog racing track provided 25,000 sq ft for Neibarden, the swimwear and beachwear firm which exports to 100 countries. It employs about 160 but this is one industry that, according to the chairman, Mr Derek Horsnell, has problems. "Because there is no nucleus of suitable unemployed local people we have opened two more factories in Scotland", he says.

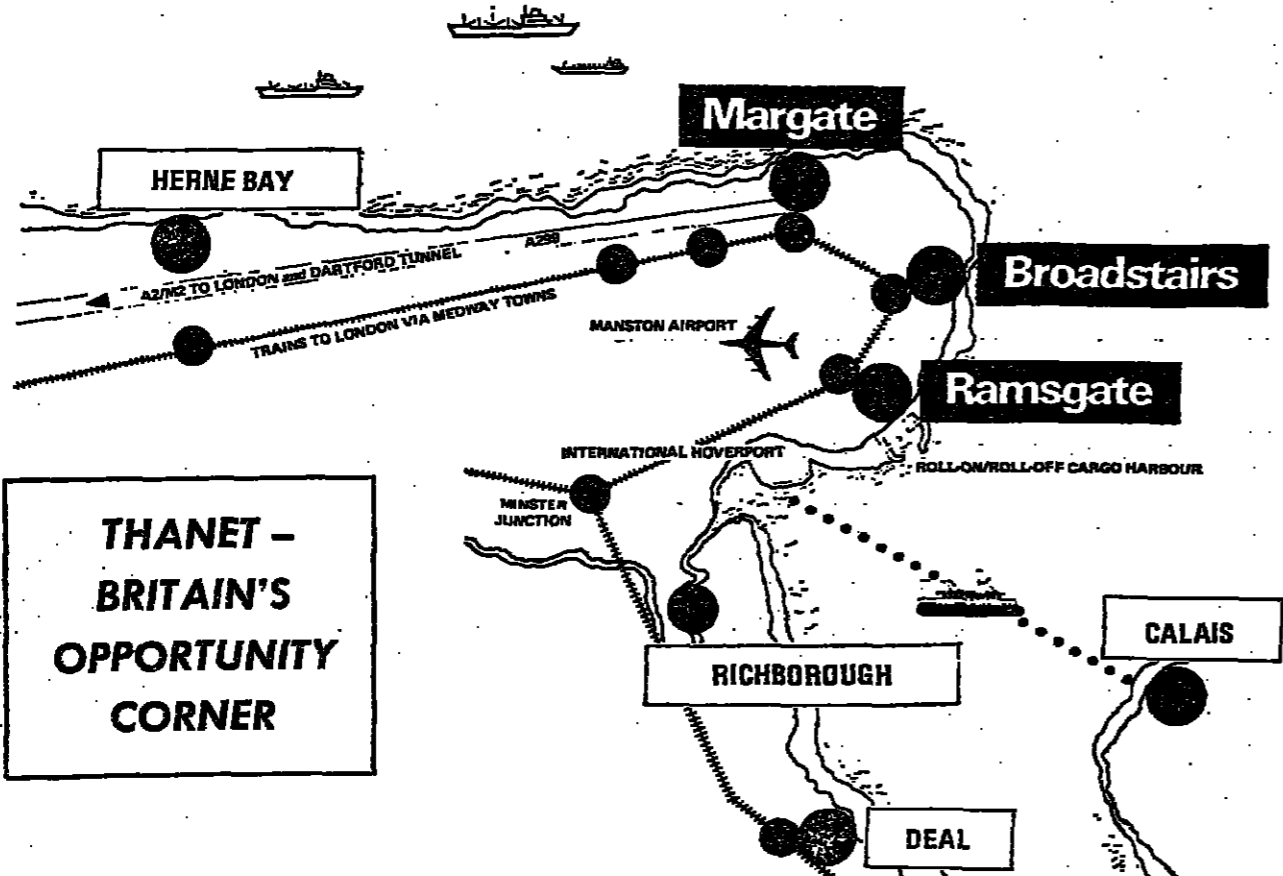
Richborough, rich in acreage, is just outside Thanet but vital in employment terms. On the Sandwich road, it boasts several factories, including Pfizer (pharmaceuticals), Hatfield-Richborough (rubber and plastic goods) and Petbow (diesel generators and welding equipment), which attract large numbers of Thanet workers. Special buses are laid on and, in factories making children's socks for chain stores. There have been machinery and employment expansions in each of the past five years.

Along the road in Rovez. Its factory, established soon after Klinger's, exports millions of toys to 50 countries topped by Australia and the EEC; it also caters for a huge home market. Rovez is part of the giant Dunlop-Comber-Marx group, with brand names like Hornby, Scalextric and Frog. Sev-

erages cars accounts for 55 per cent of the firm's British imports. There is also a roll-on, roll-off container service with Flushing carrying some producers of British Leyland Ford, Chrysler and Vauxhall. The council hopes to build these into a viable two-way traffic. "If one man can claim to have started Thanet's post-war industrial surge it is Mr Harry Anish who, in 1946, took over an old school open a clothing factory. Later he converted a mansion and now employs 200 people making women's sportswear. He recognizes a staff shortage in the clothing trade but has no doubt the council is tackling its problems on the right lines and that the future is assured. This augurs well for potential investors—for Mr Anish is Thanet council's chairman.

Behind the golden sands....

THANET OFFERS PROSPECTS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL GROWTH



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Existing cross-Channel transport facilities—Ramsgate Hoverport, Manston Airport, Ramsgate Harbour and the nearby Dover Harbour—and the projected Channel Tunnel all point to Thanet as a launching pad to EEC trading. The A2/M2 provides a fast road route from London... and the Dartford Tunnel a

way of avoiding the metropolis for rapid communications with the Midlands and the North. Fast rail services to London link to all parts of the country.

What better place to invite key staff to re-locate? Residents as well as visitors enjoy the healthy, sunny climate, beach and sea at the doorstep, the wide choice of restaurants and entertainments, and the lovely countryside of East Kent.

And the holidays scene is bustling forward alongside the commercial growth. In the pipeline are plans for a marina at Margate, major expansion of leisure boating facilities at Ramsgate Harbour and a big caravan and entertainment complex. For conference organisers, Thanet can offer the facilities of Ramsgate and Broadstairs as well as the established conference centre at Margate.

If you want to know more about the industrial and commercial possibilities, contact:

Colin Perkin, Economic Development Officer, Thanet District Council, P.O. Box No. 9, Margate, Kent. Tel: Thanet 22201

For holiday and conference information:

Publicity Manager, Information Centre, Marine Terrace, Margate, Kent. Tel: Thanet 20241

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Speed, price and ease of access are factors in hoverport's success

Five years ago the Duke of Edinburgh, surveying a wide stretch of unpretentious seashore at Pegwell Bay, Ramsgate, saw the world's first custom-built international hoverport. In 1969 two hovercraft carried 300,000 passengers to Calais and back last year, using three Mountbatten class SRN4 Mk-2 vehicles, 777,000 were carried and 120,000 motor vehicles.

Each of the craft, named Swift, Sure and St. Christopher (the latter after Sir Christopher Cockerell, the inventor), carries 278 passengers and an average of 36 cars a trip. The 200 tons laden weight allows a 50-knot cruising speed and up to 70 knots in the best weather conditions. Time taken to cross the 28½ nautical miles from Ramsgate to Calais is scheduled at 40 minutes, often cut to half an hour.

"Sixty per cent of our passengers are British, the rest mainly French, Dutch, Belgians and Germans. But we cater for many Americans who find our service fascinating. They ask a lot of questions and their cine cameras are always at the ready. They have never seen anything quite like it," Mr. Howard Archdeacon, Hoverport's customer services director, says.

Though they compete with British Rail Seaspeed at Dover, Hoverloyd are confident that their £10m investment at Ramsgate was right. They are not unduly worried about a year or two in the bank many would find it laudrophobic and prefer the sea trip. But we have two positive cards to play: competitive prices and speed. It costs only £3.90 for a day return trip to Calais and a four round trips a day are stepped up to a maximum of 21 during the summer peak season. Hoverloyd say it takes passengers one hour 20 minutes, including customs and passport formalities, to clear both terminals. "That is considerably less than half the time of conventional transport," Mr. Archdeacon points out.

An arrangement with the East Kent Road Car Company provides a daily London-Ramsgate coach service linking the capitals in eight hours 15 minutes while a similar service started this year bridges London and Brussels in seven hours.

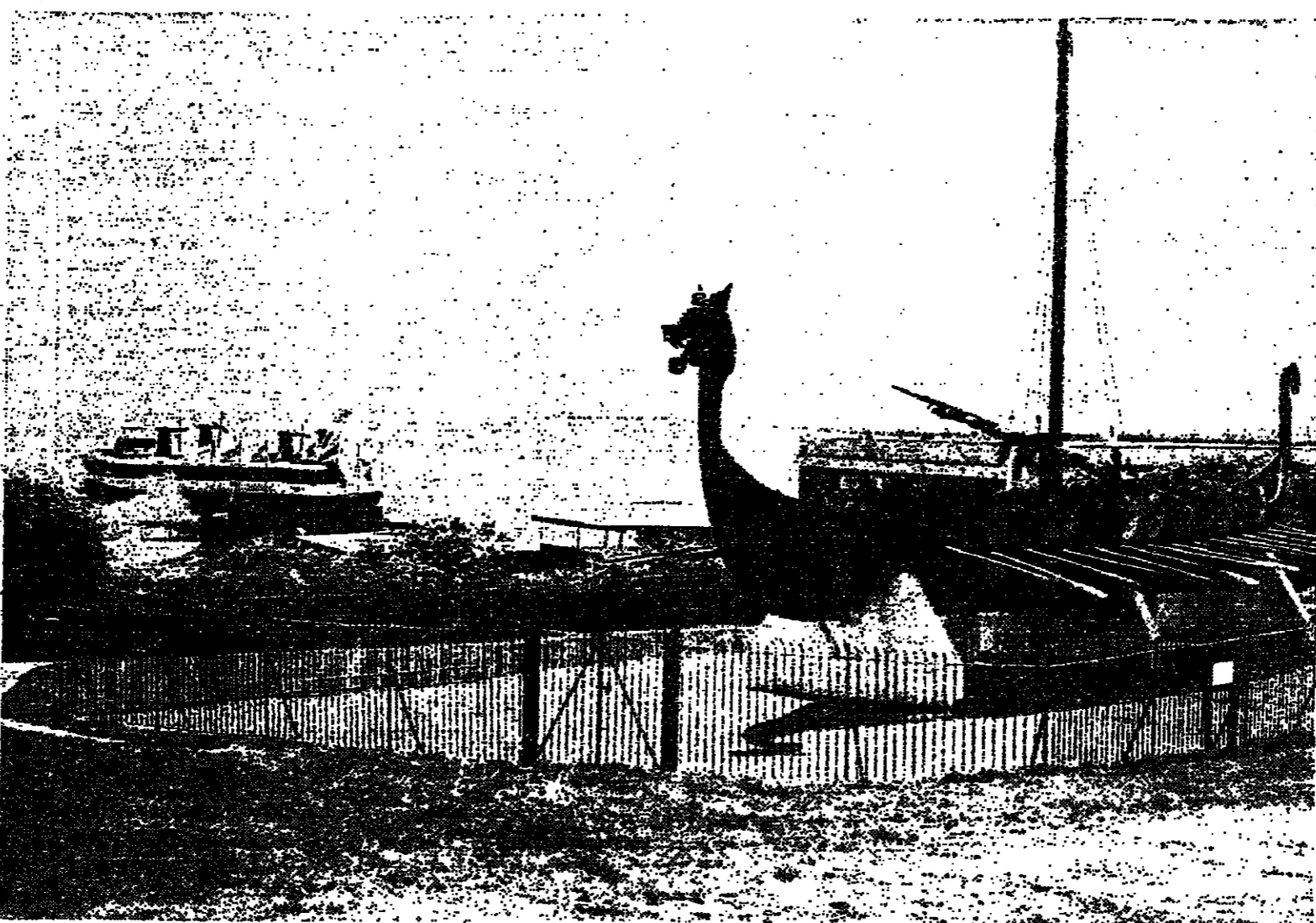
A vital reason for the site at Pegwell Bay was the ease of access compared with Dover, less than 20 miles away. The route from London to Pegwell Bay misses heavily built-up areas and after leaving the M20, the roads are superior. Many people who used Dover for years come back after one trip from here. It is personal recommendation that helped us to expand.

The hoverport aids employment on Thanet. More than 90 per cent of the 300 permanent staff and about 200 seasonal workers live locally. The numbers of men and women working there are about equal.

Two miles from Pegwell Bay is Manston, famous for its role as an airfield in the Battle of Britain. The Royal Air Force retains a firm grip, the Ministry of Defence, having equipped it with modern landing aids and emergency services. A 5,000ft runway, one of the longest in South-east England, can cope with anything—even Concorde.

Until 1969 Invicta Airways carried about 350,000 passengers a year to the Continent. In the peak 1960s period the total was nearer 500,000. Then the passenger business was moved to the East Midlands and a year later the company's managing director, Mr. Joseph Kennard, bought back his company's assets in 1969 and took over the Manston staff.

He and associate C. J. Stevens formed a new firm, Invicta Airlines, went back into the passenger business, but this is now run from Luton while Manston remains



One of Hoverloyd's craft at rest at Pegwell Bay, Ramsgate. The hoverport buildings—the world's first custom-built international hoverport—are seen beyond the replica of a Viking vessel in the foreground.

ery and household goods awaiting export. Meat and livestock are other outgoing commodities. Last year 10 million kilograms of freight was carried.

Manston, which has a 24-hour customs service, is also an inland clearing depot for TIR traffic, taking the pressure off space at Dover. "In 1973, as part of expansion, we joined the European ferries group. Since 1969 business has grown rapidly. By the end of this year it will be 16 times what it was at the time of Kennard's departure. Will passengers return to Manston? "There is a big opportunity now and several tourists operators are consider-

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Contrasting resorts are complementary—a boost for tourist trade

Patrick O'Leary

Margate, Ramsgate and Broadstairs, set in 20 miles of sandy coast, are renowned for being united in the new district of Thanet. Instead of competing fiercely for holiday business, trying to be all things to all tourists, they are to themselves, and complement each other.

Central Margate, although the town does not boast a beach, has a down-market air. "Come on in, we have special prizes for honeymoon couples," the bingo club tells seafaring passengers. In walks weekly coaches in package parties from the North.

The social balance is redressed by some of the big hotels and boarding houses of Cliftonville, and the commuter estates and retirement bungalows in Birchington and Westgate-on-Sea. Day-trippers rarely ripple the calm of these suburbs of Margate.

Round the coast, Ramsgate is typified by the cloud of spray heading for the horizon, which hides an air-conditioned craft bound for France. The town is more than that by sea, it puts to sea.

Yachts fill the inner harbour, and the Royal Ramsgate Inivicta Angling Association puts on a full programme for visitors. Troops who fought at Waterloo are marked at Ramsgate, and survivors from the Dunkirk beaches landed there in 1940.

Between its two big neighbours, Broadstairs remains essentially the quiet watering place to which Charles Dickens retired so often to write and relax. "The town was many sturdy cottages of flint and chalk, while later buildings show delicate balconies and railings—cast iron seemed to bring out the best in Victorian artists."

Mr. Heath is among Broadstairs' famous sons, and Mr. Hugh Scardon is reported to have bought a house there. Some residents feel this is carrying confrontation too far.

Mr. Peter Logan, the publicity manager for Thanet until moving to Torbay this month, said the contrast between the resorts had proved an advantage in promoting holiday trade. The population of the area doubles in the season.

More people were making day trips to France, he said. Among the attractions advertised are visits to the Calais Hypermarket. But the numbers crossing from the Continent on shopping sprees had dropped slightly since the British cost-of-living rose.

However, Mr. Logan said, tourists were using the ferries to bring cars over and stay for a week or more. For the first time, this year's Margate brochure was in four languages.

He described a new international holiday scheme announced with the help of the British Tourist Authority. "Bradford is twinned with Roubaix in France," he said. "It is a long journey. So we suggested that people from both towns met in Mar-

gate. We received bookings for about 250, including civic dignitaries."

Of a more traditional persuasion, Mr. Logan said: "Dreamland, the 20-acre amusement park, retains its popularity; it is always introducing fresh ideas."

Margate Winter Gardens, with seats for 1,800, attracts conferences, including the annual meetings of unions here. "There are hotels at Ramsgate and Broadstairs."

Proposals have been made for building a 350ft skystower near the front at Margate. But the town's pier and harbour company has announced that its iron jetty will be closed to the public at the end of the season because of rising maintenance costs. The shore end of the jetty will continue to operate, and a marina development for this area of the shore is being considered.

To prolong the short season, many hotels offer special rates to pensioners in May and September. There are also reductions for families in June. Sponsors of this idea point out that part-timers are entitled by law to take their schoolchildren on holiday for up to two weeks in term-time. It would, however, be a courageous child who made the same point to an angry teacher.

Mr. K. Kneeshaw, chairman of the Isle of Thanet Federation of Hotel Associations, with more than 1,500 members, said bookings seemed to be up this year on last. "We had been worried about the possible effect of the three-day week," he said. "A holiday is the first luxury people give up."

"This year the Golden Rail scheme seems to be making a worthwhile contribution. People can choose their resort and hotel, and bookings are made by telex."

Some small hotels had been hit by the cost of complying with the Fire Precautions Act. Mr. Kneeshaw added that many hotels had been converted to flats, although this was largely because of difficulty in finding staff.

Entertainments follow the usual pattern of seaside fare. But it was startling to see one group advertised as "The greatest rock 'n' roll show ever... the stonking, heartstopping music of the fifties that gave birth to the Giants." A world that is already nostalgic about the fifties really must be turning faster.

Broadstairs stages an annual Dickens festival in June. Two houses in the town contain relics of him. He stayed often at one, now called Bleak House. Brighton neatly claims that the author wrote much of that novel there, but Bleak House stoutly maintains that he thought up the plot within its walls.

Anyway, he certainly composed other books at that and several houses in Broadstairs. One jaundiced resident put a plaque on his home: "Charles Dickens did not live here."

According to W. H. Laphroth in his booklet *Historic Broadstairs*, Dickens stumbled on the town by accident. While staying at Ramsgate in 1836, he took a walk along the cliff—still a

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Never too big to be friendly

Mr. J. Wingate, who is responsible for social services provided by the county in the Thanet district, said he felt holiday visits might not be the best way to choose a place for retirement. "A place can look very attractive on a day trip, or a fortnight's holiday. Generally the visitors have been saving up, so they are not short of money."

"But in winter it can be bleak, with the wind coming off the North Sea. The pensioner may not even be able to go out. In summer everybody is on holiday, they are mazy and willing to talk to strangers. In winter it is a different story."

Mr. Wingate said he thought people retiring should first try the routine to put their roots down in their chosen town. They should be ready to join a bowls club, or the Women's Institute. It was also advisable to seek counselling advice on the general problems faced by people who stopped work and moved away from families and friends.

A recurring tragedy encountered by Mr. Wingate and his colleagues is that of the couple who settle at the seaside when the man retires, and after a few months one partner dies—generally the husband. The survivor may be left completely alone.

Pressure on social services in the area has been increased by the number of former hotels and large houses turned into old people's homes, convalescent centres, and homes for the mentally handicapped.

For example, it has been found that there are not enough chiropodists to meet demand. On some doctors' lists, half the patients are elderly. Mr. Wingate said voluntary service organizations in Thanet found that in the main they had to recruit help from people who were themselves in the early years of retirement.

Whatever the hazards, it seems unlikely that people will stop retiring to the coast. It is said that only when one local authority put a virtual ban on building bungalows did the numbers decrease. But now some couples prefer to live in a flat, anyway.

P.O.L.

John Colson

A legal view of the lessons to be learned from the Poulson affair

Why we must have an anti-corruption agency

The terms of reference of Lord Redcliffe-Maud's Committee, set up by Mr Heath in October, 1973, were restricted to the examination of present local government law and practice, and did not include the police; nor (as stated at paragraph 4 of its report) was it its purpose to investigate past events or specific allegations of misconduct, except in so far as conclusions could be drawn from them relating to the matters it had been asked to consider.

The Committee, however, appears to have felt impelled to make certain recommendations aimed specifically at the better detection and repression of corruption—both as to the confidential receipt and investigation of complaints from the public (para 156)—and at conferring on the police and on the Director of Public Prosecutions limited new powers to inspect the financial records of persons under investigation (paras 151, 159).

It may, however, be asked whether the suggestions go any distance towards dealing adequately with any future case of the Poulson type. It was that case, and its repercussions, which prompted the setting up of the Committee, and which are leading to other socio-political reforms. But if society is to be appropriately armed and defended for the future the

lessons of the Poulson inquiry need to be studied in detail, and in particular the exceptional factors which have led to the results so far achieved, in the shape of the convictions of numerous people formerly holding high positions, and the recovery of very large amounts of money.

The two crucial factors were surely the fact that Mr Poulson became bankrupt, and the massive deployment of police power, on an ad hoc basis, under direct and central control from the highest levels.

The bankruptcy of Mr Poulson and the liquidation of his companies made available to the trustee in bankruptcy and the liquidator those special powers conferred by the Bankruptcy Acts and the Companies Acts both for the public examination of the bankrupt and for the private examination of persons having had dealings with the bankrupt or who were officers of the companies, and for the seizure or compulsory disclosure of all relevant documents and records. Although officers of the Customs and Excise and of the Treasury possess certain powers of private questioning and the inspection of books of accounts, these are extremely limited, and the insolvency code is unique in the remedies open to its administrators.

In the event, practically all the

vital documentary evidence used by the prosecution at the Poulson trials, and most of the important admissions there relied upon as evidence against the defendants, were derived directly from bankruptcy and liquidation sources. As Mr Justice Waller said, when sentencing Mr Cunningham and Mr T. Dan Smith on April 26: "The very, very serious aspect of this case is that this corruption was done so discreetly. If Poulson had not gone bankrupt, none of this would have come out. This is the evil of the situation."

The second crucial factor was the exceptional commitment of police resources. Under the indefatigable leadership of Commander (now Deputy Assistant Commissioner) James Crane, dozens of senior detectives were drafted into the investigation of the inquiry, and the documentary evidence—amounting in the case of the trustee alone to nearly 40 tons—was copied, folded and meticulously analysed. So effective, indeed, over-whelming, were these two factors in combination that after Mr Poulson and Mr Pottinger, who pleaded not guilty at their trial, had been convicted, every defen-

dant subsequently arraigned has pleaded guilty.

Can society hope to be so fortunate on any future comparable occasion, as to have a principal in the corruption network fortuitously adjudged bankrupt, and as to have unlimited detective resources available to allocate? Should not society rather consider the feasibility of setting up, subject to all due safeguards for justice, a permanent organ of administration to investigate and prosecute charges of corruption—starting with the processing of reports or allegations received from public or private sources—an organ which might conveniently be called the Central Anti-Corruption Agency? Such an agency would need to have conferred upon it powers of interrogation analogous to those available in bankruptcy and liquidation, and comparable with, though far more extensive than, those already exercised by the Customs and Excise and the Treasury, including the examination of documentary evidence and inspection of financial records recommended by the Redcliffe-Maud Committee.

The agency would have a permanent specialist staff drawn from the accountancy, legal, local government and other appropriate sources and reinforced from outside for any particularly heavy caseload. The

lack of such investigative staff at the disposal of the Director of Public Prosecutions is noted in the Redcliffe-Maud Report (of para 157). Such lack may in part explain the inability of his office to go into those audit reports to the detriment of Mr Poulson, which were made to the Director, as we now learn, as early as 1968. Being an agency with a mission and a budget, it would not be subject to the local obstacles or embarrassments which may perhaps have arisen in County Durham, and if, as would seem advisable, it were to report direct to the Prime Minister, as does the Security Service, it might be saved from other embarrassments.

The agency would need to be established by statute, perhaps on a periodically renewable basis like the Law Commission, and subject to a degree of control by or sanction from the courts, as is suggested by the Redcliffe-Maud Committee in their proposals (at para 160) as to inspection of financial records.

One of the lessons of the Poulson affair has been the interlocking area of jurisdiction in which branches of the case, and of the activities of its principals, carried on in widely separated parts of the country, or in other parts of the world. From this point of view, the agency would surely be in a far better position

to survey and to collate data relating to any known or suspected corrupt activity on a scale than is the Metropolitan Police or any regional police authority.

Finally, the agency would be the most appropriate depository for the vast mass of Poulson archives, which, after the eventual conclusion of the Poulson bankruptcy, will need to be placed somewhere where they may still be of service to society, and harm none but the wrongdoer. There is no doubt a great deal still to be learned from further study of those legions of files as to the manner in which public servants may be tempted (whether successfully or not) and how they and society may best be defended—material which could not be made available to Lord Redcliffe-Maud and his colleagues.

The establishment, by due process of law and with all necessary protective provisions, of such a Central Anti-Corruption Agency might prove to be the most enduring and worthwhile monument to the melancholy events of the past two years.

A Special Correspondent

The battle of Europe goes on at Westminster

From the first day that Labour came to power, it was clear that there were two battles to be fought on Europe—one in Brussels and one in Westminster, and that it was the Westminster battle which was likely to prove decisive in whether Britain stayed in the European Community or pulled out.

Certainly that was the view of the man who has most influence on the matter, Mr James Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary. He did not disguise his objective from the moment he took office. It was—as it is now—to hold the Labour Party together on the European issue.

He gives the impression himself of being neither pro nor anti-Europe, in a philosophical sense. Yes, he would prefer Britain to stay in on balance. But what he really cares about is preserving the unity of the Labour Party: no more splits, nor more public slanging on the issue. When the time comes, he will probably—Mr Callaghan to present the results of his endeavours in Europe, he wants to carry the party with him, yes or no.

If anyone should complain that this is a rather narrow objective for a Foreign Minister to set himself, on the major issue of policy facing the nation, it may be noted that Mr Callaghan has a reputation as a shrewd political operator; as he himself would put it, a general without troops is of no use to anyone.

Mr Callaghan was bound to start by sounding very unenthusiastic about the Community. The party expected it, and the election manifesto, which he regarded as holy writ on the subject, line by line, enshrined the party's destructive feelings on Europe.

The experts in Whitehall had no doubts about their duty: it was to carry out the terms of the manifesto, with no ifs and buts. It is an instructive example of how the Civil Service buckles to when from one day to another it suddenly has new masters. Accordingly, much ink and much midnight oil was expended on translating the manifesto into practical objectives. A special committee of ministers, with Mr Wilson in the chair, was formed to hammer out the negotiating position.

This was the battle of Westminster, (round one). It was tough going. It is not exactly a state secret that some Labour ministers are anti and some are pro—each issue was argued out. No one who knows Mr Peter Shore would expect him to change his spots. But it may be that the anxieties felt about safeguarding British sovereignty, Mr Michael Foot's fundamental objection to mem-

bership, have been allowed somewhat by the very clear signs that the Community is not hellbent on a political federation—far from it.

The essential difference on renegotiation was that the extreme critics wanted to force a break with Community rules and regulations, the sharper the better, while the majority favoured effecting changes within the Community framework, with as little disruption as possible. It will continue to be tough going because European policy decisions are made every single day, and it is always possible to go with, or against, the grain.

Mr Callaghan has convinced the Foreign Office, which has overall charge, that when he said he wanted to make renegotiation a success, he meant it: his opening bid will not be seen until he sets out his aims and needs in detail in Luxembourg tomorrow. But it appears that, however many changes are sought, Britain's own system rather than seeking to overturn it.

The battle in the Community itself is now about to commence. The general feeling in Brussels is that everyone will be ready to give Britain a helping hand; if our demands are reasonable, but that the French, as usual, hold the key.

It is too soon to guess how M Giscard d'Estaing's government will react. If French officials insist on every sou, they will risk losing the lot, because Mr Callaghan has still got to win the battle of Westminster (round two), which means that everyone in position to call his party he has secured significant reductions in Britain's contribution.

It is easy to argue the case in principle that Britain will be paying too much, but hard to prove it in practice. So much depends on the assumptions about imports and world food prices and currency movements. While the Community would, no doubt, be ready to agree that if trouble arises Britain could count on its fair reimbursement, Mr Callaghan is obviously going to need practical guarantees to convince the Labour Party.

The final battle will be fought at the end of the renegotiation, with a White Paper showing how far on this that and the other of the Labour manifesto in fact—the terms have been changed. If Mr Wilson and Mr Callaghan approve, they will have to carry their colleagues, then the party and finally the country. It is a long haul, but the first round at least puts the possibility of a successful outcome within reach.

David Spanier

Is Ulster heading towards a Protestant dictatorship?

Belfast, June 2.

If Northern Ireland ever comes to an end, it will be because the Protestants started fighting the British.—Lord Craigavon, 1922.

In retrospect, it is not really surprising that Mr Tam Dalyell, MP, should have turned up in Belfast with such unseemly haste this afternoon. After all, how better to understand the possibilities of disengagement than to visit the house in Hawthornden Road, with its tatty palm trees and lichen covered urns, to talk to the men who may prove architects of British withdrawal? Those Westminster MPs who are increasingly worried about their constituents' distaste for Ireland, and who remember Lord Craigavon's presidential remarks, may even be tempted to treat the events of the past two weeks—privately, of course—as a godsend.

The Ulster situation looks remarkably simple. There should be elections in Northern Ireland to a new constituent assembly where politicians representing both Protestant and Catholic communities could decide on their future government without the interference of either London or Dublin. The Rev Ian Paisley stated categorically outside Stormont Castle last week—and not by chance—that he would not stand for an IRA man providing the latter had a mandate at the polls.

For the Provisionals, this scheme of things looks mighty attractive. Like the loyalists, they want an end to interference without trial and an end to emergency legislation. Like the loyalists, they say they want peace between the two communities.

Most persuasive of all for Catholic extremists, however, and here is the catch—the Protestants do not want Britain at the conference table. The suggestion that London should be left out of such discussions was a favourite of the Republicans of all species, not unlike that of Pavlov's dogs. And they simply forget that Dublin will not be there either.

Mr Paisley's colleagues have meanwhile been arguing that they will not share power with the SDLP, and that in any case the Catholic party may have lost its electoral support in this month's political debacle. This may well be true, and could further dishearten the Catholics. Nothing would please the loyalists more than a split Catholic vote, the resulting destruction of the SDLP, and a divided minority turning up to

a new assembly where they would receive short shrift for their pains.

If anyone doubts the determination of the Protestants or trusts too innocently the protestations of loyalist benevolence, he has only to remember the events of the last fortnight. For what happened in Belfast—and eventually in every part of Ulster—was not just a general strike, the inevitable protest of an angry majority. It was a protest in its own right, a protest pursued to its logical conclusion and because the Army—the complicating factor in any United Kingdom rebellion—was not deployed against the loyalists. But for several days every man, woman and child in Northern Ireland had their lives controlled by the men of Hawthornden Road. The Ulster Workers' Council decided when they should have lights, heat, transport, milk, bread, water and employment. At the UWC headquarters, although it was never officially disclosed, makeshift courts were set up for law, order, power and agriculture. The latter was a "ministry" in the gift of a prominent UDA leader.

It was impossible to live in Belfast and avoid the feeling that Europe had witnessed a frighteningly similar phenomenon 40 years ago. A middle-aged UDA man, asked by a journalist last week if the loyalist strike was not a precursor of fascism, replied, immediately by telling of how he had fought his way across Normandy with the British in order to rid France of the Nazis. Yet a German Jewish woman married to an Ulsterman admitted that she had been having constant nightmares as she remembered the Brownshirts of her childhood days.

An American correspondent, a veteran of European reporting, negotiated his way past dozens of masked men to arrive at one of Belfast's largest hotels to write an article on the subject. He was haunted by his memories of Weimar.

Even the business community, the men whom the government has called loyalists, showed they could not all be trusted. The manager of one of Northern Ireland's leading branches of Britain's leading industries turned up at the UWC offices last week, calling the shopkeepers and the small businessmen who were waiting for their passes that they should support the strike. He need not have

bothered, because some of them were already chatting enthusiastically to the UWF men at the gate.

This, provides an important clue to a remark which Mr Rees, Secretary of State, made at his faltering press conference on Friday. For when he said that there was no doubt the strike had received overwhelming support "from all sections in the Protestant community" he was in fact questioning one of the principles upon which British policy in Ulster has been founded these past five years: that there is a vast majority of peace-loving, moderate folk in Northern Ireland whose only desire is an end to violence.

The British Government is now wondering whether the silent majority—the men and women to whom Mr William Whitelaw appealed two years ago—ever existed. Silent majorities do not win wars.

If the British should decrease their support, one can only guess at the results, but the aspirations for a united Ireland would have to be crushed by an independent administration. If the republicans could not be forced to pay allegiance to a new state, and when they set up their parliament, they almost certainly would not wish to do so—then a predominantly Protestant government with or without British economic support, would return to the scene, mentally which has governed so much of loyalist history. Peace in Ulster in which the IRA, who themselves support a form of fascism, were too strong might have to be stripped off to leave such a state capable of handling its subversives, who would, by the nature of the conflict, turn out to be Catholics.

Many of the men behind the running of the strike are, it must be said, neither wicked nor politically immoral, and cannot imagine themselves as dictators whatever Mr Wilson may have chosen to call them. But they cannot see the political risks of supporting a kind of independent exclusive allegiance of every Catholic in Ulster. The SDLP leader who came to the conclusion that this promise was a trick, but in the end the British will have to decide.

Unlike Weimar, Ulster is governed from outside its frontiers. The integrity of the union, and the political integrity of Northern Ireland's party leaders, must be judged eventually by the MPs at Westminster.

Robert Fisk



Japanese schoolboys in a military salute to the Emperor, 1934.

Military spectre rises in Japan

Almost three decades after a blindly obedient Japan was carried into a disastrous war by fanatical generals, the country is still haunted by an obsessive fear that the spectre of military revivalism continues to lurk beneath the fabric of the country's modern and democratic institutions.

The memories of the catastrophe, born of a rigid faith in martial values, are so strong and bitter today that a powerful lobby or pacifists tends to challenge the slightest, even imagined trend which would revive anything like the militarism of the pre-war Japan.

Attempts to expand the country's armed services, described euphemistically as "self defence forces", have been constantly frustrated by a popular outcry and any move which might enhance the position of the Emperor, the former symbol of Japanese nationalism, has provoked a tangle of bitter controversies in recent years.

It is no wonder, then, that against this background two recent attempts by the Government to rekindle a sense of nationalism in Japan have touched off a bitter debate across the country.

Essentially this resurrection of the ghost of Japanese militarism was precipitated by the return of a wartime intelligence officer, Lieutenant Hiroo Onoda, who spent 29 years hiding in jungle in the Philippines after he and a small group of fanatical soldiers refused to accept Japan's defeat at the end of the Pacific war.

Although Japan is generally imbued with a feeling of revulsion against its older generation's prewar values, Lieutenant Onoda was given a rousing welcome when he returned home recently. Admiration for his endurance and devotion to duty, made the Japanese forget, albeit temporarily, that this un-

fortunate man was a product of a system which still undermines confidence in the establishment. To the older Japanese he represented the spirit of the Samurai (country right or wrong).

But this deceptive mood of euphoria was brought to a halt when the Government, apparently misreading feelings in the country, attempted to reintroduce two controversial pieces of legislation which pacifists believe will revive Japan's previous spirit of rigid nationalism.

First, the Prime Minister, Mr Kakuei Tanaka, announced that he would attempt to give the country a national flag, "the Rising Sun" and the national anthem official status, which they do not enjoy at the moment. With the reminder that the flag and national anthem, a song which extols the power of the Emperor, were used to conjure up emotional nationalism during the last war, pacifists, educationists and intellectuals have taken up cudgels against the proposed measures. The Government has, for the present, dropped its proposals.

But the most bitter debate has been touched off by the Government's decision to reintroduce measures which will bring the famous Yasukuni shrine, the former rallying point of Japanese nationalism, under the financial control of the state again. The furor erupted when the ruling party rammed a five-year-old draft Bill through parliament, ignoring the vociferous protests of the opposition, religious leaders and the pacifist lobby.

According to the terms of Japan's postwar constitution, which forbids the state from subsidising religious sects, the Yasukuni shrine is registered as a private organization. In reality the shrine acts today as an unofficial monument to Japan's war dead and the Government, under pressure from millions of bereaved rela-

tives, claims that it simply intends to change the law to allow the state to subsidize this function. Pacifists allege that the proposed Bill will violate the terms of the constitution and revive a spirit of militarism.

Although the proposed Bill is in reality unlikely to be passed, it has encouraged a new mood of militant nationalism in today's Japan, one can readily understand the sensitivity of the younger generation when the history of the controversial shrine is taken into account.

Established in 1669 on the crest of Kudan Hill, behind the Imperial Palace in central Tokyo, the Shinto shrine was first exploited as a rallying point to transfer the loyalties of the people away from feudal warlords towards the Emperor, and as such it encouraged the practice of emperor-worship and soon became the emotional centre of militant nationalism.

Until the American occupation forces denationalized the shrine at the end of the war, it was subsidized by the state, dedicated to the resting place of the souls of Japanese servicemen who died during wars of the last century.

While a small group of nationalists (who still believe that the Emperor is divine) are fighting to reinstate the shrine as a national institution, pacifists have joined hands with Christians and Buddhists who are challenging the Government's proposed Bill.

Religious leaders, supported by the Opposition and intellectuals, claim that if the Government takes over the shrine it will destroy Japan's secular image. But the deputy chief priest at the shrine, Ryohachi Ikeda, says: "The Americans have Arlington and the French have the Invalides. Japan should have its own monument."

Peter Hazelhurst

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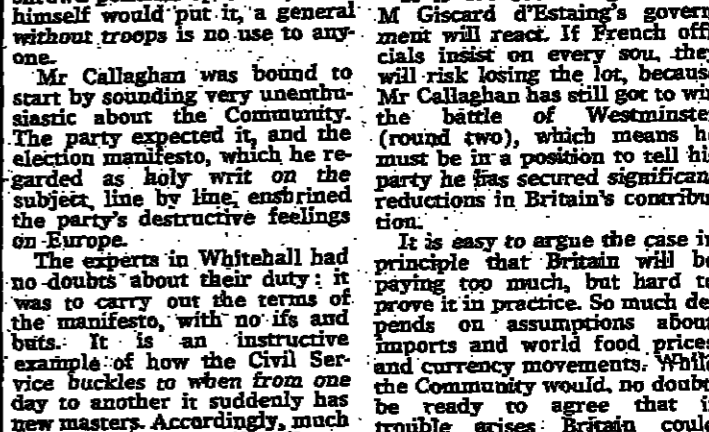
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Robert Fisk



David Spanier

As to the manor born.

Much lies behind the name Mouton-Cadet: superb wines, hard work, great experience and the Rothschild association, with all that that implies. Mouton-Cadet is a true claret wine from Bordeaux vineyards carefully selected and scrupulously balanced at Pauillac in the Médoc. A process under the personal scrutiny of Mouton Rothschild's own head cellar-master. Result? A magnificent claret: light, dry and aristocratic, delicate, subtle and satisfying.

MOUTON-CADET
APPELLATION D'ORIGINE CONTRÔLÉE

The problems of what to do with the hunger-striking Prisoners has stirred memories of her days in the suffragette movement for one 81-year-old reader.

To prevent imprisoned law-breakers from striking the tyrant through hunger strikes, the embarrassed Asquith Government passed what came to be known as the Cat and Mouse Act.

The Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-Health) Act of 1913, to give it its proper title, allowed for the release of suffragettes on the basis of starvation. The despised Act did have a catch, however. It allowed for the subject to be rearrested once she had returned to her home and dining table.

Yvonne Kilderson, a portrait photographer, who describes herself as "a rather inferior suffragette at the time", wonders if there is a lesson to be learnt from Asquith's expediency.

"It would be better than letting them die that's very certain", she said. "Perhaps such an Act would not be applicable to the Price sisters because they are rather dangerous, but then people thought the suffragettes were dangerous." The Home Office, however, are unenthusiastic about Mrs Middleton's plan.

Uncomplicated

What more pleasant way, I thought, to spend Sunday lunch-time than to meet a French starlet in the Penthouse Suite of the Dorchester Hotel? I hardly ever meet starlets, and my mental image of these functions derives largely from those black-and-white films on television, where reporters with

tickets sticking out of their hats to out-voice each other as they ask highly-decorated women about their future plans.

In the lift I met a man with a wide-brimmed hat but no ticket sticking out, so half the image was sustained. When I arrived he started, wearing a candy-striped toweling wrap and little make-up, was draping herself in front of the fountain of cherubs and spouting water-pots in the roof garden.

Photographers made her pick a single flower from a rhododendron and hold it in her hand and then, for heavens sake, in her teeth. This she bore with admirable good humour, but finally declined to pose on the edge of the goldfish pond and went indoors.

Miss Clément is best known as a model and unflappability is part of her style. As the press release says: "Her complete lack of any kind of complex is a refreshing change for everyone who meets her," which I suppose depends on who else they know.

Language difficulties caused confusion over whether her mother had been a nun for 30

years and had been 15 when Aurora was born, or whether she had been a nun for 13 years and was 50 at the birth. It appeared that the latter interpretation was correct. We do know for certain, because the Press released a photo of her, that the grandfather was found on a Normandy beach when he was five, the only survivor of a shipwreck.

"So you have a dramatic background?", hazarded a reporter. "Dramatic background", muttered the shop agent. "That's good. I like that."

Miss Clément is here for this week's opening of her first film, *Lacoste Lucien*, directed by Louis Malle, in which she plays a Jewish girl who gets involved with a member of the Gestapo during the Occupation. She is staying in Britain for a month to try to improve her English, because she thinks that way fortune lies. She wants to give up modelling and do films full time.

"There are only three French directors", she said. "Malle, Truffaut and Godard. Therefore there is not much opportunity in French films. It is better in London and New York."

Possession

There is more trouble in New York over a valuable work of art. It has been stolen abroad and then sold to an American collector. This time it is an eleventh-century Indian statue of Shiva, which was taken from Sivaram in South India and has ended up in the collection of Norton Simon, a rich and prolific Californian who has collected and paid a million dollars for it.

The trouble arose because the

Metropolitan Museum of New York planned to put on an exhibition of Simon's Asian collection. The Shiva statue, known as Nataraja, was to have been included in it. But the Indian Embassy asked the Metropolitan not to show the Nataraja and the museum agreed not to—much to the annoyance of the Norton Simon Foundation, which threatened to take legal action against it.

Thomas Hoving, director of the Metropolitan, has been taking a blandly virtuous line about this threat. "We don't mind being sued for good works and ethical behaviour", he said. "It is a rather different attitude, as is being pointed out in New York from one he has had on similar occasions in the past—particularly over the Greek vase which the Metropolitan itself bought in 1972 for about one million dollars, and which the Italians consider to have been smuggled out of Italy."

Curried rissoles

The sniffs from the Italian, Greek, German and Indian restaurants, clustered in and around Charlotte Street, mingled in the sun as local residents and day trippers celebrated the Fitzrovia Festival on Saturday. Named after the Fitzrovia Tavern

—once the haunt of Wyndham Lewis, Augustus John, Walter Sickert and Dylan Thomas—Fitzrovia is a small area bounded by Euston Road, Oxford Street, Tottenham Court Road and Great Portland Street.

Giggling waitresses from the Spaghetti House compete against some from Bertolini in a relay race; students from the Middlesex Medical School ran a stretcher race, and two stewards from two pubs had tug-of-war. A ferocious spaghetti-eating contest was won by a medical student and left restaurant depleted of spaghetti.

A rock band vied with a steel band and a discotheque set in the street, and members of a Polish dance troupe in traditional dress took turns with several groups of Morris dancers. There was some street theatre—local residents, at £2 a gallon, quantities of famous (curry) rissoles supplied by the Krishna Curry House around the corner.

ONE WAY STREET

Two readers submitted pictures of their confusing road signs which they spotted in Khartoum. This prize is from June 1974.

PHS



TARTING AGAIN IN ULSTER

cks may now be expected to ear in the inter-party agree- at at Westminster, which has an support and continuity to h policy up to its present at of frustration. That is bably no bad thing. It is fine responsible politicians in parties agree about the dom of something. It is not good when their sense of possibility prompts them to g to their accord while events t doubt upon their judgment. that way government loses ch with reality, as it is now ent, it has done in Ulster. nway, whether it is to be omed or not, the Commons not be expected to preserve previous extent of its like- edness while it examines ists' recent conduct of Irish sirs—going back beyond the ruary General Election ch, whatever the justification its timing in the context of politics of England, Scotland Wales, was disastrous for the stitutional arrangements in rthern Ireland.

sensible to construct a new on- stitution on such ambiguous pre- mises. Perhaps it was necessary if anything was to be constructed at all, and it might have worked given better luck and judgment—or perhaps it was misconceived from the word go and doomed to meet the kind of end it did (though few English politicians and fewer editors are free to say so now without apology). But this much is now clear. As a constitutional experiment it is finished. It cannot be made to stand up again. The final defection of the Protestant community was swift, massive, disciplined and decisive. They will not have it, and that is that. If power-sharing is to be re- introduced—and it still looks the best hope for the tranquillity of all the people of Ulster—it will have to be reintroduced on different terms.

Problematical
The new terms for power-sharing (if any are available) will have to exclude all suggestions that Northern Ireland is in a state of potential transition towards incorporation in some all-Ireland polity. That makes the willingness or ability of Roman Catholic representatives to participate highly problematical; and it makes them vulnerable to the challenge of militant Republicanism. Conceivably they may have been sufficiently sobered and impressed by the display of Protestant resolution, and conceivably they might respond to magnanimity on the part of the newly acknowledged Protestant leaders, to good internal guarantees, and to the offer of a significant role in the administration of the province.

The best way of finding out if there is a way forward by that route is to call provincial elections in the late summer. Elections held in preparation for a further attempt to hammer out a constitution would oblige Ulster politicians to define their attitudes more clearly, voting strength would be publicly exhibited, and United Kingdom ministers would be in no doubt about whom they had to deal with. This time they should give Ulstermen the widest possible latitude to reach their own accommodation. Men as far apart as Mr Paisley and the provisionals claim that, if left to themselves, Ulstermen can come to terms. That is improbable, but it is time the claim was put to the test.

Meanwhile the House of Commons will hear much about a growing popular demand in Britain for bringing back the troops? The manoeuvre is not as easy as it sounds. To withdraw the army while retaining responsibility for a rational act. To withdraw the army and relinquish responsibility for internal security, in other words to cut and run, would be an act of treacherous irresponsibility unless there was first established a successor regime on a reasonably durable basis with means at its disposal of enforcing internal security. (Or is it suggested that this nation is so irresolute and bankrupt in statecraft that it dumps its responsibility towards Ulster into the lap of the United Nations?) The only visible successor regime is a loyalist regime, and the only means it could be given of keeping internal security would be a

reconstituted police reserve with firearms. A Labour Government will not want to turn that full circle.

There is also the matter of honouring the constitutional guarantee to the effect that Northern Ireland shall not cease to be part of the United Kingdom in the absence of an expressed wish by the majority of the people of Northern Ireland that it should. The guarantee was first given statutory form by the Attlee Government. There is no explicit condition attached to it, but there is an implied condition, as has been acknowledged by the more thoughtful public representatives in Ulster. The guarantee is primarily for the benefit of Unionists, and the implied condition is that Ulstermen of that persuasion do not systematically flout the reasonable requirements of the United Kingdom Parliament and Government.

That is not a precise condition, and any lightly entertained assertion that it had been breached would rightly attract accusations of bad faith. Nevertheless, circumstances clearly could arise in which the Protestant community of Ulster could justifiably be held to have voided the guarantee by their own conduct. The repudiation of the authority of the Crown during the political strike that brought down the Executive was beginning to approach that state of affairs. A settled refusal by a majority of elected representatives of the Protestant community to work the affairs of the Province on any basis other than that which developed out of the 1920 Act would bring the guarantee into question.

Far from simple

However, even if it were decided that the guarantee was no longer in force, the position would be far from simple. Many in Britain might then think that they could be shot of Ulster with a fairly clear conscience. And they would be fortified in that by observing that a British presence in Ulster seemed to be incapable of doing the Province any good. But supposing the people of Ulster were not of the same mind. Supposing the majority wanted integration in, say, whatever post-Kilbrandon form is found for Scotland. The procedure of extruding a province from the Kingdom against the will of most of its inhabitants, unless at the dictation of another more powerful state, is a very strange one. Is there anywhere an historical precedent for it?

It would almost certainly be necessary to wait for a majority of the people of Ulster themselves to conclude that it would be better to make the break, probably into some form of independence and probably with a redrawn land frontier. But the upheaval and resentment that would cause, and the risk of an Irish civil war, to say nothing of the braking power of the manifold social and economic links with Britain, suggest that some time and much more agony would have to be gone through in the Province before any such conclusion was reached. Frustrating as it is for all concerned, there is no early or easy end to the historical intercourse by which for eight centuries the rulers of England have troubled and been troubled by the Irish.

The uses of industrial power

From Mr Robert Jackson
Sir, The Prime Minister is reported to have said of the Ulster Workers' Council on May 29 that "you cannot negotiate with people—it is like a group of workers holding the country to ransom not on something they feel strongly about—on wages and so on—but saying that people must pull out of the Commonwealth, so into a Republic".

Clearly Mr Wilson has been experiencing some difficulty in finding a ground of principle upon which to distinguish between the proper and the improper use of industrial power. The doctrine implied in his statement on the UWC seems to be that it is proper for a group of workers "to hold the country to ransom" on "something they feel strongly about"; but that such a group is only entitled to feel strongly about "wages and so on".

The purpose of this doctrine is presumably to find a principle which condemns the use of industrial power by the UWC while justifying the Labour Party's complaisant attitude to the use of industrial power to protest against changes in the law relating to collective bargaining (1971 and 1972), to secure an exemption from the operation of incomes policy regulations approved by Parliament, or to resist the re-issuing of a Court (1974).

Mr Wilson appears to have in mind a distinction between two separate areas of activity, the "economic" and the "political"; in one of which industrial power may properly be used, but not in the other. But while such a distinction served Mr Baldwin well at the time of the General Strike, against the background of a liberal-capitalist society, it surely cannot fit the realities of

the social-democratic state under which we now live. Full employment and the growth of the public sector—not to mention counter-inflation policy—have in effect "politicized" the entire economy and abolished the nineteenth-century distinction between the sphere of politics and the autonomous sphere of economics.

In the circumstances it is surely more appropriate to define the limits of the proper use of industrial power in terms of a different distinction: between that area of social activity of any kind which is covered by rules made through the democratic process—in which political action is alone appropriate—and that area in which no such rules have been laid down.

Wide politics on the part of any Government of course requires that the rules that are made through the democratic process should take due account of political realities and of the need for consent. But at the same time the subject has a duty to consider the propriety of his withholding his consent; and it is clear that on the basis of the distinction outlined above the use of industrial power against the Industrial Relations Act and its operation was improper, and that the miners' strike was at least of doubtful propriety. The only way in which justification could be found for such actions might be by disputing the legitimacy of the constitutional and political order itself, as the UWC have done. The same defence is surely not open to trade union leaders, and their supporters, on this side of the Irish Sea. Yours sincerely, ROBERT JACKSON, All Saints College, Oxford. May 31.

Ulster: need for a reappraisal

From Sir Gilbert Longden
Sir, Discussion of the Northern Ireland imbroglio is bedevilled by the fact that words like "Christian" and "loyal" have joined such words as "democracy" whose meaning depends upon where they are used. I join it to express the hope that there will be no consensus in Parliament for a sudden withdrawal of our forces from Ulster. The Prime Minister in his broadcast suggested no such action; but the events of the past few weeks must have caused many people in Great Britain to have second thoughts, and I fear that he was only expressing what most people here are thinking, if not saying; and that is a welcome change which surely does not merit criticism.

A nation which breeds parents who can so bring up their daughters that they go berserk at the sight of a pop-star, or who can themselves behave as the Tottenham "fans" did in England, has no right to criticize others. But if it be true, as all informed commentators tell us, that the great majority of the Protestants in Ulster fully supported the general strike ordered by the Ulster Workers' Council then I think the time has come for a reappraisal. For that strike was avowedly against the lawful authority of the Parliament of the United Kingdom of which these people claim to want to remain a part.

An overwhelming, all-Party, majority of that Parliament had agreed upon a Constitution which for the first time is fair to all sections, and which includes built-in guarantees, repeated in the Ulster Governments and Oppositions here, not only that there would not be the smallest step towards unity with the Republic, but also that no effective powers would be given to the proposed Council of Ireland without the consent of a majority in Ulster.

Fifteen months ago I argued that to pull out of Ulster would be "a cowardly abdication of our responsibility towards the peace-loving majority of our fellow-citizens in Ulster". But would it now seem that they will live in peace only if they can do so on their own conditions which are not the conditions which their fellow-citizens in the United Kingdom consider to be just. I therefore venture to repeat my suggestions I made to you, Sir (November 3 and 12, 1971), that there should be an agreed re-alignment of the Border, and assisted resettlement

of people who wish to move north or south of it; and I would now further suggest that, within an agreed period, the territory north of the new Border should become an independent Protestant State within the Commonwealth; and that during that period, and for not a day longer, our armed forces should continue their thankless task of seeking to protect Ulster lives and property from the barbaric excesses of Ulstermen.

Yours sincerely,
GILBERT LONGDEN,
89 Cornwall Gardens, SW1.

From Mr Julian Amery, Conservative MP for Brighton Pavilion
Sir, May I add the following comments to the discussion in your columns on Ulster.

The British Army was sent to Ulster to defend the province against the IRA. The military threat from the IRA has not diminished, nor has the need for a British military presence.

The disbandment of the B Specials, the uprooting of the old Stormont, the introduction of proportional representation and power-sharing and the agreement to revive the Council of Ireland were all designed to create a political climate in which the IRA could not operate.

Whatever the merits of these concessions to the minority community, they have not brought about the result intended. What they have done has been to lose Britain the confidence of the majority community.

The immediate task now, if we are to avoid something near anarchy, is to recover the confidence of the loyalist majority. This requires a firm statement that British forces will stay in Ulster so long as the military threat from the IRA requires. A decision to increase Ulster representation at Westminster, as recommended in the Kilbrandon report, would also go far to convince Ulster that we stand by her union with Britain.

None of this need prevent the search for a constitutional settlement based on the principle of power-sharing, though here we should be wise to remember Lord Salisbury's dictum that "the commonest error in politics is sticking to the carcass of a dead policy".

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN AMERY,
House of Commons.
June 2.

Slap

They were judged to be radically alienated, not merely from 50-year governing party, the unionist, but from the nature of regime itself. The latter con- was one from which er's Catholics were showing s of recovery in the decade to 1968. But the battering ch parts of their community ived in the next couple of rs, self-inflicted as well as er-inflicted, brought a relapse. The terms which the Roman tholic leadership in Ulster, erted by Dublin, successfully sisted upon included the quirement that formal recogni- on be given to their nationalist piration towards a United Irish public. They would forswear ira constitutional means of nishing that ambition provided return there was some acknowl- dgment of the provisional racter of the Northern Ireland re. Hence the "Irish dimen- a" of White Paper prose, the ming to the sun, the partial d allegiance, the Sunningdale reement concerning an all- land council, and the necessity equivoaction on the part of se recommending the new ngements—all of which have ved so repugnant to any but most sophisticated of Ulster testaments.

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Salary levels: burden of responsibility

From Mr John Arkell
Sir, Inflation, Mr Grimond declares (May 20), is the responsibility of "some men at the top of the establishment" and never takes account of others, the entire race of professional and salaried chairmen and managing directors who, he would have us believe, "whatever their blunders and losses, do not resign, often push up their salaries and perquisites and never take account of others who really believe this to be a true picture of the top managers in this country".

No doubt there are numerous people who would like to have "cars, secretaries and free jaunts abroad" but how many would be capable of the responsibility and great anxiety it entails? As for "free jaunts" this is a strange way to describe the exhausting and endless world travel that intense international competition thrusts upon those who, in industry and commerce, are in the vanguard. Mr Grimond also ventures into the complex area of salary comparisons. He cites the low pay of nurses for which there is massive sympathy but totally overlooks the fact that in any fair sized organization in whatever sector, including a hospital, there needs to be a salary structure reflecting the various levels of responsibility. The differentials between the levels should clearly be both commensurate with the responsibilities and also economically make promotion from the level below meaningful in terms of spendable money.

Financial reward is not the only incentive for the professional manager who has the job satisfaction of leading a team and of being one—especially when it compensates for the strains and sacrifices involved. If the salary relativities between different levels of responsibility are to mean something in net earnings, then the tax situation itself forces up to a relatively high level the gross salaries in higher management.

It is clear from the BHM National Management Salary Survey published today (May 29) that the incidence of tax plays an increasingly larger part in the way in which executives in Britain is on the low side compared to that of other European countries.

I yield to no one in my concern for the problems facing the employment of managers in this country who have suffered more than most from an erosion of their living standards over the past few years, and the differentials between those who have the responsibility for making decisions and those whose job it is to carry them out are fast decreasing.

There may be a very few well paid sinecurists and the odd example of the unacceptable "handshake" but, as a matter of continuing administration to the majority of skilled and experienced managers continue to work long hours under pressure, often at the sacrifice of their domestic lives, for such comparatively small take-home pay.

There is certainly no wholehearted support when he inveighs against blackmailing and holding the community to ransom by attacking a third party either

with actual physical violence or, as he puts it, by indulging in a strike in order to gain attention. But to blame our economic ills primarily on the captains of industry and their associates who have done so much for our culture are directly concerned in producing the country's wealth from which we all benefit is totally wrong.

I have a great respect for Mr Grimond's strong sense of compassion and I would like to see a more effective advocate if he would join the rest of us in the twentieth century and shed some of his extraordinary misconceptions about the function and worth of the modern professional manager.

Cordially,
JOHN ARKELL,
Chairman of Council,
British Institute of Management,
Management House,
Parker Street, WC2.
May 29.

Institutional reform

From Mr James Robertson
Sir, Many of the people who have written to you in response to Mr Grimond (May 20) assume that we have to choose either to distribute income more fairly or to give greater encouragement to personal enterprise and initiative. Is this not a false choice? Do we not need a programme of institutional reform that will help to make our society more fair and economically more successful?

Company law is now badly out of date; remote shareholders cause "absentee landlord" problems for large corporations; small private companies which should be growing points of enterprise and innovation—are discouraged. The financial system favours big people against small, borrowers against savers, and those who speculate in existing assets against those who invest productively.

The tax and social security systems pervasively combine economic inefficiency with social unfairness; in the richer, the middling and the poorer reaches of society alike they penalize ability and hard work. At the same time, tax concessions and social security benefits often seem to favour those who do not need help more than those who do. The Whitehall and Westminster routines for planning and managing public expenditure, taxation and government borrowing—and using them openly as instruments for setting social and economic priorities in accordance with public opinion expressed through an incomes survey—are years behind the times.

Why are the necessary reforms so slow in coming? We seem to be caught in a trap. Top people—in government, business and finance—believe in the socialist solution which, as it then appeared, would concentrate all property in the hands of the state.

Some readers will surely wonder how they managed to miss the news that the Government has abandoned both the proposals, ratified as late as last year's conference, for what the then Shadow Chancellor then described as a "massive extension of nationalization", and the ultimate intention, stated on every party card, to bring into public ownership all the means of production, distribution and exchange.

But, unfortunately, the Labour Party has not in fact followed the example of the German Social Democrats. It remains, as always, a socialist party. All that has changed is the willingness of Sir Dingle Foot, and others like him, to recognize the facts, and to oppose the continual increase in state control; in the interests perhaps of a redistribution of private wealth and "a property-owning democracy".

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY FLEW,
26 Alexandra Road,
Reading.

President Sadat's record

From Mr Jon Kimche
Sir, After some 30 years of fairly intimate observation of the Middle East, I feel ever more that so many of the miscalculations and misunderstandings during this period were the result of a failure to recognize the euphoria of the European and American enthusiasts for the Arab cause—and also for the Israelis—than to the errors by Arab and Israeli leaders.

It seems particularly regrettable that one seems to have to add Lord Chalfont to this list of enthusiasts, all the more so since I have been a long-standing admirer of his sharply critical and sane approach to the problems of defence. It is sad that he should not have brought these same invaluable standards to bear in his assessment of the Egyptian position and to the now fashionable elevation of President Sadat as the man most qualified to win the next Nobel peace prize.

For in failing to do so Lord Chalfont does himself precisely what he so rightly detests in Nato and nuclear politics: he subscribes and confirms myths which can only damage the future course of Middle Eastern peace-making. It might be worth recalling that President Sadat's politics did not begin with October 1973 and that the extent of the achievement by the Egyptian forces and their Commander-in-Chief, which Lord Chalfont describes so colourfully and enthusiastically might be qualified—without in any way denigrating it—by two valid qualifications.

The Barlev "line" was manned by 60,000 troops which were in the event overrun by 60,000 Egyptian troops with rather more than one tank and one gun for every Israeli

manning these forward observation posts which were falsely publicized as a kind of Maginot fortification complex.

2. That what Lord Chalfont calls the element of surprise had, in fact, not fooled the Israeli or American field intelligence. The initial surprise rested almost exclusively on the evaluations made by two senior Israeli officers. But for their insistence on a theoretical preconception the whole of President Sadat's elaborate plans might have been missed.

In short, it could again be very misleading—especially for the Egyptians—to draw hasty conclusions from so fine a margin between success and disaster; almost as risky as to base one's conclusions on the public relations face of President Sadat rather than on his record and known views, which over a period of many years did not always tally in theory or in practice—with the admiring condemnation of the use of violence which Lord Chalfont quotes from the much-edited English version of articles written by Mr Sadat in the early fifties.

No one would question Lord Chalfont's concluding advice that President Sadat and Egypt's armed forces should be taken seriously—least of all, the many friends and supporters of President Sadat who have fallen foul of him because they did not quite share the enthusiasm of some of the new European—and American—admirers of the Egyptian President. It may be worth remembering that these non-conformist Egyptians represent an impressive cross-section of Egypt's political, intellectual and military society.

Yours sincerely,
JON KIMCHE,
Camilla Lacey Lodge,
Westhumble, Surrey.

David Wood

The question behind the Irish question

three-party front at Westminster on the Irish question is a thing fast, and there can be hope that Mr Wilson, Mr and Mr Thorpe will be able to repair it during the two-day opening in the Commons afternoon. It is as much a pity of the Protestant workers' Union led by the Ulster Workers' Council at the Northern Ireland Executive and the Northern and Assembly. The old Protestant ascendancy is back, asserting strength outside politics, through the restraints of government Westminster and Stormont, and of meaning such political ideas as power sharing and the dimension. Every Westminster politician knows that the policies, whatever their merit, lead, and that there is only a period in which practicable native policies have to be d.

dangers are already visible: sters and former ministers may succeed to cling too long to the ter and verse of the policies failed, and some rank and file officers may be all too willing to their frustration by flying to xreme. It is not less than far- for example, when Mrs Rees a, who is a member of Labour's small executive committee, seems as a backbencher, seems that time the Government should tanks into Belfast streets at cost of life to subjugate the ar shop stewards and workers, excessive when Mr Tam Dalyell, of the 10 members of the Par- tamentary Labour Party, claims that half the would pull out British troops leave Ulster, presumably, to n in its own blood.

Nor is it statesmanship when Mr Wilson uses the broad brush to paint Ulstermen as spongers on the people of Britain, or calculates with the niceness of a petty-cash clerk how much every Northern Irish citizen costs the British taxpayer. Utterances of that kind will make bipartisan policy impossible, as Mr William Deedes, one of the surest interpreters of Conservative opinion on Ulster, has warned.

This week's debate will lead to no worthwhile or durable adjustment of policy unless the House of Commons accepts, as Mr Mervyn Rees, the Secretary of State has accepted, that at a popular level there has now occurred a regrouping of Protestant and nationalist forces which owes little or nothing to any established political leaders, and which is capable of resisting any attempt to control it within political channels.

It is easy, on our Westminster view, to see the democratic virtue and the rationality of the policies pursued in turn by Mr Callaghan, Mr Maudling, Mr Whitelaw, Mr Pym and Mr Rees to bring peace, prosperity and social justice to the province. Perhaps power sharing and the Irish dimension will prove the right answers in the end. But it is now clear that for some time to come they will not carry the assent of the overwhelming majority of the people of Ulster.

Today and tomorrow the House of Commons needs some voices, preferably not Ulster voices, that will risk an objective analysis of how the policies look to the Protestant majority with whom the success of any solution, short of British withdrawal and Ulster independence, now rests. Westminster's record has some extraordinary features. Since 1969 it has destroyed three Prime Ministers of Northern Ireland and one Chief Executive, by forcing a pace of reform and a movement towards the Irish dimension that stripped them of majority support. It has virtually ruined the Ulster Unionist Party. It has suspended the Stormont Parliament that existed for 50 years; imposed direct rule; created an Executive that could not live and an Assembly that has been suspended; and has now restored direct rule through two fairly junior and inexperienced ministers.

With the best of intentions, to secure the objective of power sharing, it has denied the majority its inherent power. Although Ulster has been denied its own Parliament, it has been under-represented at Westminster. Although neither of the two main parties sees merit for proportional representation in Britain, both adopted it for Ulster to give minority parties more places in the Assembly; and when that still failed to outflank the Unionist majority, they gerrymandered the Executive to give effective equality between Unionists and minority parties.

Meanwhile, the Ulster Unionist party in the Commons was broken. Mr Wilson crudely threatened it during the 1964-66 Parliament by challenging its right to vote on steel nationalization; and Mr Orme, now the Minister of State with proconsular powers at Stormont, in 1965 was one of the sponsors of the Campaign for Democracy, the civil rights movement that prepared the ground the IRA later exploited. Today there is not an official Ulster Unionist MP in the House of Commons, although there are 11 Protestants.

Right or wrong, over a period of at least nine years, Westminster has pursued policies to break the Protestant ascendancy over Ulster. Nor have the policies brought peace and reconciliation to the province. The terror of the bullet and the bomb still reigns.

All in all, it may be regretted that the Protestant majority in Ulster does not trust Westminster, but it should not be surprising. On a cold and objective marshalling of the record, in spite of repeated reaffirmations of the Attlee-declaration on the conditions for Ulster's future, and the statutory provisions for a periodic border poll, one could not, hand on heart, say that the covert ultimate aim of British policy, privately nursed by succeeding administrations and perhaps now by a growing number of British electors, is any other than the unification of Ireland. Until there is candour about this, one way or the other, the Irish question will persist with undiminished virulence long after this week's debate has ended. It is the question behind the present Irish question.

Free speech obstructed

From Mr John Biggs-Davison, Conservative MP, Epping Forest, and Mr Harold Sore
Sir, Since your publication of a letter (May 13) from the Oxford student leaders of all three political parties, there have been further acts against the freedom of Conservative organizations and spokesmen to prevent them holding meetings and from conducting political activities.

The Essex University Students' Union has decided to withhold the usual funds from the University Conservative Association, because they invited one of the signatories of this letter, who is both an Essex Member of Parliament and a member of the Court of the University.

The Oxford University Monday Club is to be compelled by the Oxford Union standing committee to raise its deposit for the use of union rooms for meetings from £5 to £50 because of the attack made on the occasion of the visit of the other signatory of this letter.

Mr Andrew Bell, President of the Oxford University Monday Club, had the windows of his bedroom smashed by four heavy metal ob-

jects to which were attached obscene words, the most offensive being "Fascist (sic) Pig".

There is nothing new in university terrorism by the far left and the craven failure of authority to take disciplinary action. Mr Patrick Wall, MP and his wife were mauled at Leeds University in 1968. A number of other Conservatives, of various tendencies, have been physically attacked or denied the freedom to speak.

All this is the work of extremist minorities. Labour and other non-Conservative students have displayed their disgust and regret and assisted in the attempt to restrain some of the excesses.

For exercising the traditional right to express constitutional political views, the Monday Club finds itself in the position of being denied the right of free expression which is the birthright of all law-abiding British subjects including those holding views different to ours.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, chairman,
HAROLD SOREFF, vice-chairman,
Monday Club,
51 Victoria Street, SW1.

The socialist solution

From Professor Antony Flew
Sir, In his interesting piece "G. K. Chesterton: Poet with an historian's eye" (The Times, May 29), Sir Dingle Foot tells us that when he and his friends were young: "We did not believe in the socialist solution which, as it then appeared, would concentrate all property in the hands of the state."

Some readers will surely wonder how they managed to miss the news that the Government has abandoned both the proposals, ratified as late as last year's conference, for what the then Shadow Chancellor then described as a "massive extension of nationalization", and the ultimate intention, stated on every party card, to bring into public ownership all the means of production, distribution and exchange.

But, unfortunately, the Labour Party has not in fact followed the example of the German Social Democrats. It remains, as always, a socialist party. All that has changed is the willingness of Sir Dingle Foot, and others like him, to recognize the facts, and to oppose the continual increase in state control; in the interests perhaps of a redistribution of private wealth and "a property-owning democracy".

Yours sincerely,
ANTHONY FLEW,
26 Alexandra Road,
Reading.

procedure was used—application forms? Statements of experience relevant to the role of governor? References? Interviews, even?

The second query raises the prior question of what sort of special skills a governor ought to bring to bear on his school responsibilities. Ability to interview at executive level? Ability to interpret community feeling? An understanding of educational philosophy? Ability to articulate verbally with some degree of accuracy beliefs and observations?

Finally, to what extent have the governors (who after all will certainly put this question to headship applicants) tried to improve their skills in interviewing, their insights into current education theory and practice, and their knowledge of their own community as well as understanding of the school?

Yours sincerely,
PETER TARGETT, Headmaster,
Soudgate School,
Sussex Way,
Cockfosters,
Hertfordshire.
May 30.

Political honours

From Mr Martin Thompson
Sir, As Sir David Hunt rightly points out (May 30) the Emperor Caligula did not, in fact, make his favourite horse Incitatus Consul. However, it should be borne in mind that the Emperor's extraordinary and apparently irrational devotion to his rather controversial protégé, which according to Suetonius even extended to imposing his silence in the neighbourhood of its stable, lest it became restless, and his rumoured intention to elevate the animal to high office, must have contributed to his own sudden downfall.

In fairness, it should be added that there is no evidence to suggest any undue political ambition on the part of Incitatus.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN THOMPSON,
120 Swiss Court,
Chelsea, SW3.
May 30.

School governors

From Mr Peter Targett
Sir, Ronald Butt's interesting article (May 30) about the problems of appointing a headmaster at Highbury Grove School prompts me to ask three questions:

(a) How were the governors of that school appointed? skills do they bring to the role of governor?

(c) What steps have they taken to develop themselves in order to become effective governors?

Under the first heading I should be most interested to discover whether or not any form of selection

OBITUARY

SIR ARNOLD LUNN

Leading English authority on skiing

Sir Arnold Lunn, author, controversialist, Catholic apologist, and guide to Switzerland, who was the leading English authority on skiing and the inventor of the slalom, died yesterday at the age of 86.

The son of Sir Henry Lunn, who abandoned a promising business career to become a Methodist missionary in India and who then became a travel agent, he was known as Arnold Lunn when he was born in Madras on April 18, 1888.



The inauguration of the first "Lowlander" Championship in 1948.

Perhaps his greatest love was for skiing, and ski-mountaineering. He had no physical handicap but his triumphs would have been immensely long, but few skiers with two good legs could have achieved the feats of the Alpine skier.

At various times he was president of the Ski Club of Great Britain, of the Alpine Ski Club and of the Kandahar Ski Club. In 1914 he produced a volume on The Alps in the Home University Library. Even in these early books Lunn proved himself a writer of uncommon ease and naturalness, always vigorous and always confident.

His writing interests became apparent only slowly. He continued to write books about skiing (Cross Country Skiing, Alpine Skiing, Skiing for Beginners, A History of Skiing) about mountaineering (The Mountains of Youth (1925) and about Switzerland—there was a volume, in 1928, on "topographical, historical and literary landmarks".

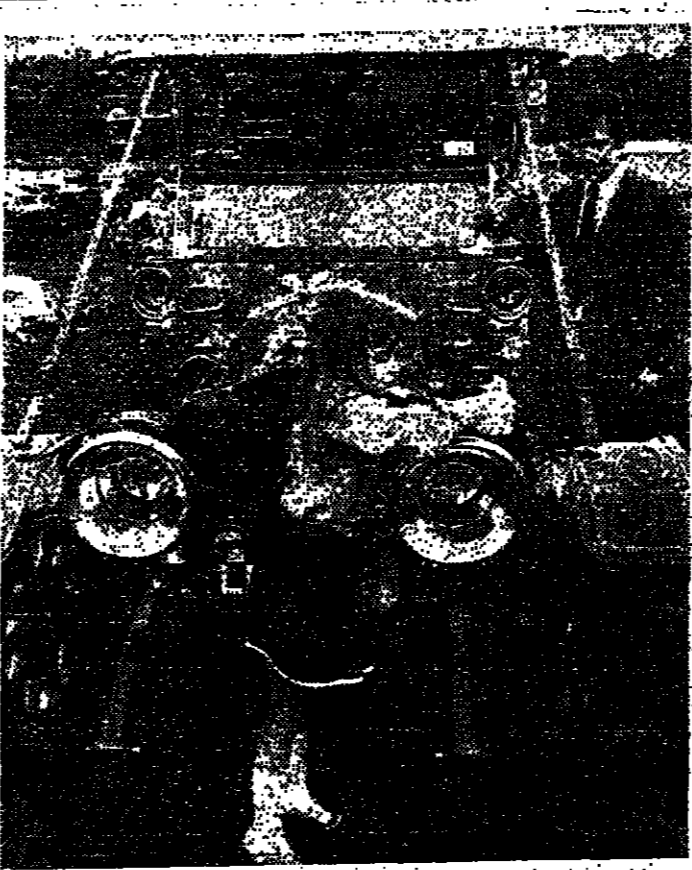
LADY NORTON-GRIFFITHS

Georgina, Lady Norton-Griffiths, who died on Saturday at the age of 101, must be the last to have had personal contacts with the musical giants of the late nineteenth century.

Her husband's death in 1955 was a round dose of their agonisingly long marriage. She was born in 1873, the year that the canal was built and the Andes by mule in mid-winter when the Trans-Andean Railway was inaugurated.

Working from rates of oil charge from known seeps (from a fraction of a barrel to a maximum of 900 barrels a day) they estimated about 0.6 million tons of oil discharged into the sea each year. It is clear that the oil depends on how well the oil is reflected in the sea.

Interpreting the data on total values as high as six million tons a year or as low as a million tons, the total decided on represents a wide range of estimates. The North Sea seems to be the most likely source.



Mandy Hemmings, aged seven, polishing a 1911 Silver Ghost owned by her father, Mr David Hemmings, who is watching, at a Rolls-Royce rally near Theale, Berkshire, yesterday.

Growing church concern on homosexuals' plight

By Clifford Longley Religious Affairs Correspondent

The subject of homosexuality is not one of the churches, by and large, are eager to re-examine; they share the general uneasiness of society on this topic, and in addition they possess a doctrinal tradition which has always set the limits on sexual activity within the context of heterosexual monogamous marriage.

Perhaps as a result of the slow easing of sexual attitudes, there are some in the churches prepared to call for such a re-examination, however. They are dissatisfied with an attitude that has little to say beyond condemnation. Many such critics are organized in bodies which are homosexual, and find the church's attitude unhelpful to their personal and religious development.

The question is slowly creeping on to the Christian agenda, nevertheless. The Unitarian Church has clear produced a report on homosexuality. It is described as "a basis for open and frank discussion in order to ventilate points of view which have not been fully expressed by a Quaker Yearly Meeting." It appears that many homosexuals, again offered as a basis for frank discussion.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, June 2, 1949

Disraeli's home From Our Special Correspondent HILTON MANNING—Englishman Major, the home of Disraeli from 1848 until his death in 1881, was today reopened as a museum to the public. The ceremony was held in the presence of the Duke of Devonshire, the Duke of Devonshire's wife, the Duchess of Devonshire, and the Duchess of Devonshire's daughter.

Farmland prices pattern alters

Leonard Amey Agriculture

There is an interesting change of pattern in the latest official figures of farmland prices in England and Wales, which came from the ministry last week. They are the most complete available, covering prices for all agricultural crops, but because they are compiled from notifications to the Inland Revenue in a given period they are subject to delay.

Marriages

Donald Cameron, yr of Lochiel and Lady Cecil Kerr The Prince of Wales, Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips, Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, the Duke and Duchess of Kent and the Duchess of Devonshire, the Prince Michael of Greece and the Duchess of Edinburgh, and Lady Cecil Kerr on Saturday in the Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin, Edinburgh.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a gown of white tulle and silk cut on classical lines. Her veil was held in place by the Cameron family tiara of pearls and diamonds and she carried a bouquet of lilies-of-the-valley.

Mr H. C. Elliot and the Hon. Elinor Spring Rice The marriage took place on Saturday at St Margaret's, Wicken Bonham, Essex, of Mr H. C. Elliot, son of Mr N. E. Elliot and Mrs Elliott, of Cuckney House, Cuckney, Nottinghamshire, and the Hon. Elinor Spring Rice, twin daughter of Lord and Lady Montagu of Brandon, of Brick House, Wicken Bonham, Essex.

Mr J. E. Kemp and Miss F. A. Herring The engagement is announced between Charles James Bowring, son of Captain M. B. Kemp, of Wincobrook, Gloucestershire, and Mrs J. W. Vernon-Smith, of Compton Abbadie, Gloucestershire, and Mrs J. W. Vernon-Smith, of Compton Abbadie, Gloucestershire, and Mrs J. W. Vernon-Smith, of Compton Abbadie, Gloucestershire.

Latest wills Dr Samuel Shepherd, of Aylsham, Norfolk, left £288,317 net (duty paid £16,902). After personal and other bequests he left the residue equally between four charities.

Birthdays today Professor Sir Roy Allen, 68 - Sir Robert E. Black, 81 - Lord William Douglas-Home, 62 - Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Falconer, 80 - Sir Ronald Morrison, OC, 74 - Hon. Sir Con O'Neill, 62 - Admiral Sir Francis Priddy, 88 - Mr Alec Robertson, 82 - Marshal of the RAF Sir John Slessor, 77 - Sir Edward Wayne, 72.

Premium Bond winners The weekly £25,000 Premium Savings Bond prize, announced on Saturday, was won by number EXL 17927. The winner lives in Lancashire.

Appointments in the Forces Royal Navy CAPTAIN F. R. Hoag to the rank of Rear Admiral, 1974. CAPTAIN J. H. B. Hoag to the rank of Rear Admiral, 1974. CAPTAIN J. H. B. Hoag to the rank of Rear Admiral, 1974.

"She is the nearest approach to a saint I've yet met..."

A seasoned field worker wrote this in his report after seeing the loving care Miss R is giving to groups of helpless old people in Lesotho. (She wishes to remain anonymous). What a better place the world would be if there were more like Miss R, concerned with what they can give rather than get. Yet what little encouragement they receive.



COURT CIRCULAR

CLARENCE HOUSE June 1: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother today visited Stratford-upon-Avon, and reopened for navigation the Upper Avon River. Her Majesty travelled in an Aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

TEATACHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK June 2: Princess Alexandra, attended by the Lord Mayor and Fitzalan-Howard, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight from Germany.

The Duke of Edinburgh will present the Royal Aero Club medals and awards for 1973 at the United Service and Royal Aero Club, Pall Mall, on June 13.

The Duchess of Kent, patron of The Spastics Society, will attend the National Spastics Games at Reading University on July 8.

A memorial service for Gerald Ford will be held on Sunday, June 9, 1974, at 6.15 pm, at the Central Synagogue, Great Portland Street, W1.

Forthcoming marriages Mr J. G. Isles and Miss C. A. Dunstoy The engagement is announced between John, eldest son of the late Mr C. B. Isles and Mrs Isles, of 50 Seaford Road, Broughty Ferry, Dundee, and Cheryl, twin daughter of Major and Mrs W. Dunstoy, of 18 Garret Drive, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

Mr C. J. E. Kemp and Miss F. A. Herring The engagement is announced between Charles James Bowring, son of Captain M. B. Kemp, of Wincobrook, Gloucestershire, and Mrs J. W. Vernon-Smith, of Compton Abbadie, Gloucestershire.

Mr D. J. Marks and Miss J. R. Spiro The engagement is announced between David, youngest son of Mr and Mrs H. V. H. Marks, of 39 Bletham Gardens, Kingston, Surrey, and Jane, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs M. Spiro, of 40 North Crescent, London, N3.

Rev A. Marsden and Miss J. C. Clarke The engagement is announced and the marriage will take place in the summer of 1975 between the Rev. Andrew Marsden, of the parish of New Adington, Croydon, and Miss Janet Colbert Clarke, of Shirley, Croydon.

Mr P. Zier and Miss J. Butler The engagement is announced between Perran, only son of Mr and Mrs I. M. Zier, of Penzance, and Jane, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs E. J. Butler, of Plympton St Maurice, Devon.

Birthdays today

Professor Sir Roy Allen, 68 - Sir Robert E. Black, 81 - Lord William Douglas-Home, 62 - Lieutenant-Colonel Sir George Falconer, 80 - Sir Ronald Morrison, OC, 74 - Hon. Sir Con O'Neill, 62 - Admiral Sir Francis Priddy, 88 - Mr Alec Robertson, 82 - Marshal of the RAF Sir John Slessor, 77 - Sir Edward Wayne, 72.

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BUSINESS NEWS

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Nyropro disaster threatens major disruption in UK textile industry

Ronald Kershaw, Northern Industrial Correspondent, writes from Manchester, June 2.

Production of nylon fibres by major companies, Courtauld and British Enka, faces disruption as a result of explosion at the Nyropro caprolactam manufacturing plant at Flixborough, near Farnborough, near Southampton, on June 1.

The companies and their customers are now faced with obtaining alternative supplies of the raw material or of nylon to maintain production a time when there are serious shortages of other intermediate materials.

Mr Les Grainger, chairman of the Flixborough plant, said that the impact of the disaster would be serious. The end product of a plant, caprolactam, was used in manufacturing nylon.

The Flixborough plant was one of only two in Britain producing caprolactam, and British Enka, Courtauld and British Enka, were pressing for more and more supplies and indeed were contemplating extending their operations.

Mr Grainger said that when the plant was opened it produced 100,000 tons of caprolactam a year. This had been increased to 200,000 tons by opening new plants and the Nyropro company

Fair trading proposals for service industries

Services such as hairdressing, window cleaning and advertising will soon be subject to new powers outlawing many restrictive practices and stepping up competition.

Mrs Shirley Williams, the Secretary for Prices and Consumer Protection, will next month, or soon after, publish a comprehensive list of service industries which she intends to bring under the control of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

This means that the services listed, including estate agents, road hauliers, betting and gambling shops, employment agencies and hoteliers, will have to register any restrictive practice with Mr John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading.

If the director general suspects that the practice may be against the public interest, he will refer it to the Restrictive Practices Court, which may in turn ban it. Any infringement of the ban would then constitute contempt of court.

Restrictive practices would include not only price-fixing but also agreed "carving up" of the market and arrangements among businessmen restricting the terms and conditions of sale.

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection has no idea how widespread restrictive practices are in service industries. But an official commented that there was no doubt that the 1956 Restrictive Trade Practices Act had brought to an end "a wide range of diabolical agreements".

Approval of Mrs Williams's proposal must be given through the affirmative order of both Houses of Parliament. It is hoped the new law will be on the statute books before the end of this year.

No decision has been taken yet on including professional services such as lawyers, doctors, dentists and architects within the scope of the new proposals.

BP's buy-back talks with Kuwait break down

Beirut, June 2.—Talks between the Kuwait government and British Petroleum and Gulf Oil over crude oil buy-back prices have broken down, the Middle East Economic Survey said yesterday.

With the failure of an agreement on buy-back prices from the government of their newly negotiated 60 per cent share of the crude, the amount of crude available to the two companies will now drop to about 500,000 barrels a day each, from its previous 1.5 million barrels a day, the Survey said.

It was commenting on the decision of the Kuwait government to auction 1.25 million barrels a day of crude oil. This represents all the government's available crude under the newly ratified 60-40 agreement with the Kuwait Oil Co. which was formerly jointly owned by BP and Gulf.

The Survey said the breakdown in talks "does not rule out the possibility that the two companies might purchase some of the government's crude at a later date".

Before last year's October war, KOC was lifting about three million barrels of oil a day, which was split fifty-fifty between BP and Gulf.

Kuwait parliament ratified an agreement in which the government took over 60 per cent of the ownership of KOC leaving BP and Gulf with 20 per cent each.

The Survey said Japanese customers of the two companies are likely to be affected. It noted these customers buy about 400,000 barrels a day of Kuwait crude.

BP was selling much of its 1.5 million barrels a day to Exxon and Mobil, and Gulf was selling a good part of its 1.5 million barrels a day to Shell.

The effect of their Kuwait supplies now being cut by a third "would be difficult to exaggerate", the Survey claimed.

According to the government's announcement, "Bids for crude oil deliveries for the second half of 1974 should be received by the end of June and those for deliveries in 1975 and beyond by the end of September".

Merger seen as Franklin bank's only hope

From Frank Vogl, Washington, June 2.

Along Wall Street and at numerous Federal government agencies the view remains widespread that the Franklin National Bank, the twentieth largest bank in the United States, will be able to survive only if it merges with another bank or if it is taken over.

Experts who have been following the affairs of the bank in great detail in recent weeks note that it can now not be ruled out that a foreign bank could acquire Franklin.

They said that several foreign banks of high reputation, which are quite unconnected with the Franklin's chief shareholders, the Italian Signor Michele Sindona, have recently made detailed inquiries about Franklin with a view to a merger or takeover.

Franklin has so far received about \$1,100m (about £450m) of assistance from the Federal Reserve System, but this cash is seen as no more than a holding operation until a merger partner can be found.

It is largely because of the recognition in Washington that a merger may be the only solution to the bank's problems that the anti-trust division of the Justice Department is now deeply involved in the various government reviews of Franklin that are taking place.

Franklin's problems go well beyond those resulting from losses in the foreign exchange markets. The losses so far stated by the bank may, the experts said, be lower than the true situation. Franklin has admitted that "through a dealer exceeding his authority and through negligence" the bank may have lost up to \$38m in the foreign exchange markets.

Franklin National Bank and its parent, the Franklin New York Corporation, said more than 10 days ago that a revised statement on its first quarter results was about to be published. The report has still not come out. The experts say that while it should be out in a few days, clearance difficulties with some government departments could lead to the report being delayed for another 10 or more days yet.

Government agencies are looking at the Franklin situation from every possible angle and may well order big changes in the bank's management.

Arab ministers decide to maintain embargo on The Netherlands

Cairo, June 2.—Arab oil ministers today decided to maintain the embargo imposed on The Netherlands last October.

The nine ministers agreed to meet here again on July 10 to review the embargo.

A spokesman said the ministers had reassessed the situation after the agreement between Syria and Israel to disengage their forces.

There was "nothing to call for a change of attitude on other matters", which included the continuing ban on oil supplies to The Netherlands, he said.

The embargo on The Netherlands was imposed in October because of the "hostile attitude of the Dutch towards the Arab cause".

The spokesman explained after today's meeting: "For a radical change you have to feel a radical change of attitude on the other side. It should not be neutral".

Asked whether this would hamper the dialogue between the Arab world and the EEC, of which the Dutch are members, the spokesman said: "The dialogue continues and the trend of friendship continues".

Conference sources indicated that the main opposition to lifting the embargo on The Netherlands came from Saudi Arabia. Algeria is reported as favouring an end to it and informed sources said Egypt supports this view.

Saudis ask Iran to join in cutting oil charges

From Paul Martin, Beirut, June 2.

Saudi Arabia has stepped up its campaign for reduction of oil prices by publicly challenging Iran to join it in cutting more than \$2 off crude prices.

The Saudi stand was outlined by Shaikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, the Saudi oil minister, in an interview with the Middle East Economic Survey.

Shaikh Yamani chose to make his government's policy clear at a time when the economic commission of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is discussing prices. Saudi Arabia opposed the move by the Persian Gulf states last December to increase oil prices from \$7 a barrel to \$11.5. This was principally the doing of Iran.

The Saudis are known also to oppose the trend by other Middle East producers to seek what the Saudis regard as "excessive" prices for participation crude.

The Saudi statement is expected to have an adverse effect on Kuwait's attempts to auction 1.25 million barrels of crude which it refused to sell back to the operating companies after rejecting their offer of 95 per cent of the current posted price.

In his interview, Shaikh Yamani said that Saudi Arabia and Iran had cooperated in many fields—particularly in oil. He expressed a wish that Iran would cooperate with the Saudis in reducing oil prices. He said he believed the price of Gulf crude should be reduced to \$9.

Shaikh Yamani had been asked about an earlier statement by Mr Jamshid Amouzegar, the Iranian minister, in which he questioned Saudi Arabia's prices policy. Mr Amouzegar claimed the Saudis were playing a double game, calling for a drop in the general market price to \$7 a barrel while seeking to market their participation crude at \$11.

Shaikh Yamani replied: "I would like to point out that the current buy-back prices for the participation crude recycled to the Aramco owners is the market price."



Shaikh Yamani: proposal to lower crude price.

Food groups prepare for review of Price Code

By Hugh Clayton.

Food manufacturers have started collecting evidence for the Government's promised summer review of the price clauses of the Price and Pay Code. The Food Manufacturers' Federation, which represents 500 companies, has asked for case histories from its members.

Mr Ronald Halstead, chairman of Beccomb Products and president of the federation, said its members had two main worries about the Code.

"I hope we are going to get some changes on the production side, deduction," he said. The present code as formulated by the last government and continued by the present one prevents manufacturers from passing on all of their extra costs in the form of higher prices.

Mr Halstead said that the recent triggering of threshold agreements had caused alarm among food manufacturers.

"The big things are going much of this will just come out of our profits".

A further worry was the Government's rule that the price of a product may not be raised at intervals of less than three months unless costs rise very sharply, or raw materials account for a high proportion of costs.

This would place a further burden on profits by forcing companies to absorb cost increases for several weeks.

Big industrial group may buy into Lockheed

From Our United States Economics Correspondent, Washington, June 2.

Textron Industries of Rhode Island, a leading United States company, is expected to announce it may well announce the taking of a large interest in the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, informed sources said.

Lockheed has experienced financial difficulties for several years, largely owing to problems over its 1401 Star aircraft and its connections with Rolls-Royce, which supplies the engines for the aircraft.

The company has been looking for a merger partner and it appears that it is now on the eve of concluding a deal with Textron.

Lockheed announced on Friday that it would be holding an important meeting with its bankers, Lazard Freres, tomorrow "to review proposals to strengthen the company's financial position".

Textron is expected to give Lockheed a large loan in exchange for shares. A full merger, while seen as an eventual possibility, is not yet under discussion.

Textron is an extremely well managed company with wide interests in aerospace and electronics. It ranks as the eighty-third largest company in America with sales last year of \$1,000m (£750m).

The sources said the deal could well involve Lockheed getting an infusion of some \$300m from Textron, enabling it to repay in full its \$250m loan from banks.

Lockheed was saved from bankruptcy at the time of the Rolls-Royce bankruptcy in 1971 by the Government's loan guarantees and the company now has special loans of about \$750m outstanding from a large consortium of banks.

While Lockheed is now confident of improving TriStar sales it admits it may well take many years before it can start to show a profit on the TriStar venture.

Just how the relationship between Textron and Lockheed is to evolve is unclear at the moment, but Mr William Miller, Textron's chief, is known to be interested in greatly strengthening the company's aerospace activities which include a leading helicopter company.

Gas import network planned

By Roger Vielvoye.

The world's most elaborate natural gas transportation network is being devised to allow five European gas companies to import 53,000 million cubic metres of Iranian gas a year in the 1980s.

Negotiations between the Iranians and a consortium of companies including Snam, a subsidiary of Italy's ENI, Ruhrgas of Germany, Gaz de France and Austrian and Swiss gas companies, have reached an advanced stage.

There are two separate schemes for importing the gas. The larger involves the construction of 2,500 kilometres of pipeline from the Kangan gas field through Iran to the Turkish Mediterranean port of Iskenderun. The line would carry 40,000 million cubic metres of gas a year which would be liquefied and shipped by tanker to a re-gasification plant at Montalbane in Italy.

The second project would move 13,000 million cubic metres of gas a year from the Kangan field across the Iranian border into the Soviet Union.

The Kangan field is the largest dry gas discovery in the Middle East and one of the largest in the world. The find was made by a consortium of companies, including Agip of Italy, Elf-Erap of France, and Hispanoil of Spain, in fifty-fifty partnership with the National Iranian Oil Company.

While the negotiations for moving the gas through Turkey have gone smoothly, opposition has been growing in West Germany to exchanging the Iranian gas for Russian supplies because of concern at the increasing importance of Russian imports in the country's gas distribution network.

Fall in building land sales cuts £6,000 off an acre

By Edward Townsend.

The market for building land in Britain is in "a state of lull" with average prices now £6,000 an acre being just at levels, the edition of the Digest of Building Land sales reports today. The first 11 months of the year witnessed a depression which was more than seasonal, the report states.

Reduced activity during the last months of July and just is usually followed by a strong recovery in September and October, but the autumn of 1973 saw no such recovery.

High interest rates charged on mortgages have played a major part in curbing demand and has particularly affected first-time home buyers, a significant sector of the market.

Government policies are blamed by the Digest for intensifying the "classic boom and slump cycle" but, more particularly, blames Government action which affected the present cycle and intensified its severity.

Financial problems kept building activity down by 22 per cent in the first quarter of this year compared with the previous quarter and 45 per cent down on the first quarter of 1973.

According to the Digest, "the building land market was, therefore, critically affected by the fact that there were too many houses, either completed or under construction, for the present level of effective demand to absorb".

High interest rates charged on mortgages have played a major part in curbing demand and has particularly affected first-time home buyers, a significant sector of the market.

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House costs expected to be stable until next year

Although the demand for houses is increasing again, prices are unlikely to rise next spring.

It is the view of some of the country's larger building societies, for the second month in a row, that their fortunes continue to improve.

Applications for mortgages doubled in the past eight months as home buyers became more anxious to get a share of the Government's £100m-a-month to the societies.

Building societies' terms are becoming more competitive as interest rates fall elsewhere.

New money borrowed last month at an estimated rate of 7.0m to £80m. This compares with the £65m inflow in April and a net outflow of £21m in March and £15m in February.

The Bristol and West, one of Britain's largest 12 societies, believes house prices are unlikely to rise before next spring at the earliest.

It is far too early to anticipate a rise in house prices," a spokesman said. "There could be an increase, but all the factors seem to militate against it."

Merchant fleet at record level

Britain's merchant shipping fleet, which has been expanding steadily in recent years, reached a record level of nearly 50 million tons deadweight at the beginning of this year.

Figures to be issued shortly by the United Kingdom Chamber of Shipping will show that the fleet has almost doubled in eight years from the 1965 level of 26.6 million tons dwt.

\$24m bid by Burmah soon

Washington, June 2.—Burmah Oil is expected to announce in the next few days that it has agreed terms to buy Geon Industries Inc.

Geon has indicated that an announcement may be made on Tuesday. The acquisition will cost Burmah about \$24m (£10m) with Burmah paying \$10.75m a share, industry sources said.

Burmah had originally made a bid of around \$16.80 a share. Worse-than-expected Geon figures sharply reduced the value of the offer.

The agreement is expected to include one important condition: that Burmah will not be liable for any possible legal costs resulting from actions that are either now taking place or may arise from Geon's difficulties with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Motor agents worried by car increases

A sudden upsurge in demand for new cars is expected this week as motorists rush to beat the price increases which Britain's big four manufacturers are implementing.

An increase in the market seems certain, particularly as the last round of price rises, which on average added £90 to the cost of a £1,000 car, was just three months ago.

But with the total United Kingdom car market depressed by about 30 per cent, news of further price rises could only add gloom to the overall picture, the Motor Agents' Association said.

Mr Frank Higham, the director general, said yesterday: "This will cause a considerable amount of concern in the trade. There are enough obstacles in the way at the moment."

Pension funds concerned over business rents

Margaret Drummond, members of the National Association of Pension Funds meeting today to plan a paper on property for imminent consideration.

The pension funds, which have been a heavy purchaser of commercial property over the last three or four years are recently not satisfied by the Government's statement on business rents.

The statement provided for continuation of the freeze on business rents for another year and a lifting of controls from March 1976.

While the details of the Government's paper will be decided at the meeting, the main point is likely to centre on the loss of income borne by the funds during rent restrictions.

Survey of manufacturers likely to show changes in capital spending programmes

By Maurice Corina, Industrial Editor.

Some revision of manufacturing industry's plans for capital investment is expected to be announced by the Government later today. A post-Budget survey of 200 leading companies during April and May has been conducted by the Department of Industry to establish the validity of manufacturers' claims that Mr Healey's measures would cut capital spending.

The survey is an important one, for the Chancellor promised in mid-May in a speech to the Confederation of British Industry that it was his firm intention to take new action, "if we judge it necessary, to ensure that investment is not endangered by the undue restriction of profits".

The CBI, in its own trends survey, has already spoken of a horrifying rise in costs and other pressures prompting an uncertainty that has clouded the outlook for new investment. Nevertheless, the chemicals industry has stepped up its spending on a significant scale.

The last inquiry into manufacturing industry's intentions was taken in November and December, when the energy crisis damaged confidence.

On the basis of those replies, only a modest 2 per cent rise in the volume of investment in 1974 or 1975 was expected, with a guess that there would be "no significant change in the volume of investment" for 1975.

Both the Department of Industry and the Treasury are hoping that the bows of protest from industry over the Budget's impact on costs and profitability were wrong. It is argued within Whitehall that order books remain strong, if partly due to shortages rooted in the after effects of three-day working.

The Chancellor is anxious that crucial export business is not lost through lack of capacity in the next year or so. Many industries, such as engineering, have strong export orders to justify a fresh surge of expenditure on new plant and equipment.

However, many industrialists feel that until the forthcoming negotiations on price and profit controls are concluded they must take a cautious view in their investment planning.

The three-day week in particular hit deeply into the substantial gross liquidity of companies at the end of 1973, adding to the problem of raw materials and component costs.

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Lending rate 11 3/4pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate is 11 3/4 per cent this week, unchanged from last week. The following are results of Friday's Treasury bill tender:

Applications	£2,660	Allocated	£100m
Subscriptions	£2,660	Received	£100m
Average rate	11 3/4pc	Weighted	11 3/4pc
Next Friday	£250m	Replace	£100m

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Offshore wells could be producing more than half world's oil by 1980

By Peter Hill

Offshore oil wells could be producing more than half of the world's total by 1980, compared with the present 18 per cent of production. With this prospect ahead, the Law of the Sea conference, which begins in Caracas this month under the aegis of the United Nations, is to draw up new regulations governing the exploitation of these reserves.

Industry sources suggest that unproven offshore potential reserves are probably at least equal to those on land and almost all of the deposits are located in undersea extensions of the main land masses.

Within a few years fields in the North Sea will be producing from wells at a depth of 130 metres (covered by the United Nations Convention on the Continental Shelf). But according to the latest issue of the authoritative monthly journal, *Petroleum Economist*, geophysical evidence indicates the best prospects are in waters ranging from 200

metres to 3,000 metres, where the producing structures in the outer Continental Shelf and slope are much thicker than in shallower seas.

Apart from the technical problems in drilling at these depths, the lack of any licensing authority governing exploration and production of oil in deeper water could be a serious constraint on the development of these reserves.

The present regulations for exploration of the Continental Shelf are considered unsatisfactory because not only are they open to varying interpretations, but they have not been ratified by the required two thirds of all states which have become independent since they were drawn up.

In some areas of the western approaches there is disagreement between France and Britain while off the west coast of Scotland there is a dispute over the island of Rockall between Britain and Ireland.

Further afield, the South China sea is subject to dispute over the issue of licences; boundaries are being contested by China, Thailand, Cambodia, South and North Vietnam, Malaysia and the Philippines.

At the weekend the South Vietnamese government announced that it had awarded oil exploration concessions on nine blocks on its continental shelf in the South China Sea to 12 American, Australian, British, Canadian and Japanese companies.

This month oil companies will be invited to take up oil and gas exploration concessions off the west coast of Greenland by Denmark's Ministry for Greenland.

With more than 130 oil companies engaged in oil exploration and production off the coasts of some 80 countries, the need for some international agreement on the development and licensing of offshore concessions will be strongly pressed at the Caracas conference.

Printers told to resist price cuts pressure

By Edward Townsend

Britain's printers were advised by two sources at the weekend not to absorb cost increases "to an unnecessary extent" and to resist pressure to cut prices.

Mr Henry Davy, retiring president of the British Printing Industries Federation, speaking at the federation's annual congress in Harrogate, said some printers had absorbed costs mistakenly, at the expense of future investment and efficiency.

Return on capital of companies participating in the federation's management ratios scheme rose only marginally despite the favourable market conditions in the latter part of 1973, he said.

"When all printing firms take as much pride in profitability as in producing perfect printing, the headliner industry will be."

Mr Alex Jarratt, chairman and chief executive of the Inter-

national Printing Corporation, gave a warning against price-cutting to increase turnover in the next two years before the expected reappearance of growth prospects from 1976.

"If the industry is to survive in a healthy state to reap the benefits of the 1980s, it must be strong enough to resist these pressures and temptations."

Price-cutting without genuine cost reduction was not a good basis for competition, which should be based on quality, service and reliability. The industry should invest in knowledge and skill, raise the quality of the product, improve the fixed asset base and keep abreast of technological development.

In the past year Britain's printing industry, the largest in Europe, checked its export earnings of £550m. Its turnover represents 10 per cent of the output of all British manufacturing industry.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Higher off-peak electricity charges

From Mr D. H. A. Tugwell

Sir, Sir Peter Menzies is misleading in his letter of May 26 when he states that the cost of coal and oil burned to produce off-peak electricity has increased just as much as the cost of the coal and oil burned to produce electricity in the standard tariffs.

Electricity at night is generated by the most economical generators with high thermal efficiency. The average thermal efficiency of all the power stations is approximately 28 per cent whereas the most efficient generators have a thermal efficiency of approximately 33 per cent. Therefore, one ton of coal (or oil) burns at night produces about 20 per cent more electricity than that burnt in an average power station and nearly 50 per cent more than that burnt in some of the older power stations. Moreover, a significant percentage of the night load is generated by nuclear power stations which have not been subjected to the huge increase in fuel costs of the conventional power stations. The percentage of nuclear powered generators has increased further if the new AGR stations can be made to operate.

I am in no doubt that the fuel adjustment charge is not fair to the off-peak consumer.

Further, I find completely unacceptable the inability of your local electricity board to inform me what price I shall be paying for my electricity until I receive my bill three months later. What other commodity does one purchase without knowing the price of it at the time of purchase? I do not understand why two nationalised industries, the National Coal Board and the Central Electricity Generating Board, cannot agree the price of coal for periods of 12 months ahead.

Yours faithfully,
D. H. A. TUGWELL,
18 St. Anne's Crescent,
Lewes, Sussex, BN7 1SB.

From Mr A. G. Walker

Sir, I have read with interest the letter from Sir Peter Menzies in answer to correspondents complaining of increases in off-peak electricity tariffs.

Incredibly, the chairman of the Electricity Council appears to have brushed aside or missed the point which concerns millions of users of off-peak electricity: that is the reason for and the purpose behind the marketing of units capable of effecting a significant saving during the night. It is my understanding that the intention was to encourage greater use of electricity particularly at a time when traditionally demand was low. By offering half-price electricity it also invited the user to enter and compete favourably with other fuel suppliers in the market of central heating. Indeed the latest development, the white meter system, offered users half-price electricity for all consumption during certain restricted hours. In my view the electricity board entered into a contract with its users to supply electricity during certain restricted and totally unattractive periods at half price. The latest increase reduces this contract to one of a difference between the rates of approximately 0.5p and destroys the concept of off-peak heating, rendering it totally uneconomic. Aside from the foregoing, I understand that the secondary purpose of supplying electricity during off-peak periods was designed to encourage the use of that electricity which would be unavoidably produced during

the night and which was otherwise wasted: that being no facility for storing product. Surely this fact relates to the cost of production now be of prime importance particularly when consumers realise just how much the "cheap" electricity will cost them, they abandon or greatly curtail the use of it. Former cheap-rate units are no longer required for immediate requirements, forgoing the luxury of 24-hour background warmth.

To conclude, I believe that the Electricity Council and its chairman should take a long, hard look at the "new" off-peak charges for off-peak supply. If the general public reacts to these increases then it may be found that there is an extra demand during normal hours followed by a huge decrease in the use of night storage, resulting once again in a surge of high-cost unusable electricity. Yours faithfully,
A. G. WALKER,
21 Glen Road,
Bexley,
Kent, DA5 1BN.

From the Rev Graham Buxton

Sir, This explanation given by the chairman of the Electricity Council of the increased cost of electricity does not quite tally with the speech by the Under-Secretary of State for Energy in the House of Commons, April 1, when he implied that those whose accounts are 21 year or over would be charged by 50 per cent; £58 a year by 30 per cent and £50 a year by 10 per cent.

This has the precise opposite effect of an all-round increase of 30 pence per unit, explained by Sir Peter Menzies, which would place highest percentages of increase on the smallest users.

The Under-Secretary's affair in the House that his group had been made in coming with the Electricity Council. Has its chairman's new nomenclature been made in consultation with the Department of Energy?

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM BUXTON,
56a Pont Street,
London, SW1.

Sex discrimination: when ability and enthusiasm are ignored

From Miss M. Wedlake

Sir, I am and have been employed by an auctioneering firm. I was recently offered the chance, with the vendor's full approval, to come in on one small side, but this has created almost what could be termed a crisis in the hierarchy of my firm. An incident which, I think, my principals do not doubt my enthusiasm and ability, if I must confine myself to matters more in keeping with my sex.

I am writing to the Royal Institution asking for their views on this matter, but would you and your speakers interpret this as blatant sex discrimination, and is this not what Parliament, in its wisdom, is at the moment trying to legislate against?

Finally, in writing this letter I am not putting forward a general case for women's lib, but simply asking if it is right or wrong that, given the ability and necessary training, a woman should be allowed to pursue a chosen career without bigotry entering into the matter.

Yours faithfully,
MISS M. WEDLAKE,
Hedgeways,
Throleigh Road,
Southampton, SO8 1AA,
Okehampton, Devon.

Salvaging paper waste paper

From Mr R. W. Frost

Sir, As managing director of medium size printing company I am only too conscious paper supply problems and need to salvage waste. I therefore astonished the day to have delivered to me a home up-to-date telephone directory and then to be told the old one should be sent away.

If this is common practice throughout the country, presumably hundreds of tons waste paper is being lost each year. Perhaps the administrative costs are too high for Post Office even to insist that where the occupant at home the old directory should be collected.

If this is the case then our postmasters at least and local churches, schools, others interested in funding for charity, because I quite certain that they will be delighted to collect up the directories and sell them to wastepaper merchants.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. FROST,
Managing Director,
Grifford Ltd,
7 Burners Lane,
Kiln Farm Industrial Estate,
Stony Stratford,
Milton Keynes.

Successes for executive job-finding

By Clifford Webb

The Department of Employment's newest venture, the separately managed Professional and Executive Recruitment branch (PER), has finished its first complete year of operation with promising results.

Mr Dewi Rees, PER's director, said yesterday: "After a rather sticky start we are now moving from success to success. In the past year we found jobs for 8,000 people, that is more than double the number of vacancies in the private sector dealing with professional and executive recruitment."

"We have turned over £1.25m and although we are not yet making a profit I am certain we shall do this in 1975-6 and that means we are keeping up with a target which at one stage seemed impossible to many people."

Mr Rees admitted that PER made many mistakes in its early days but said the organization was now developing into one of the most sophisticated in its field.

PER has at present 60,000 candidates on its register and some 20,000 vacancies to fill. About half the candidates are still in employment.

Peak output levels mark man-made fibres recovery

Britain's man-made fibres industry returned to peak production levels in April and effectively completed the industry's recovery from the slump which had threatened it at the beginning of the year.

Figures issued today by the British Man-Made Fibres Federation show that production during the month was 5 per cent above the average monthly output last year at 63.50 million kilograms. The federation said it was the first time this year that monthly output had exceeded that for the corresponding month of 1973. In April it was 7.6 per cent higher.

The improvement was most pronounced in production of staple fibre where output of 32.7 million kilograms was 3 per cent higher than a year earlier. It was also 8 per cent above the average monthly figure for 1973.

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Channel Isles banks turn to local recruiting

Quick disillusionment awaits anyone who imagines that because no passport is needed to travel between the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands, his new office in Jersey or Guernsey can easily be staffed from the mainland.

In fact, both islands operate what are effectively immigration controls through their housing laws, which allow an imported worker to occupy a house on that only if he is considered "essential" to the community.

Despite the growing importance of the finance industry to both islands, the housing authorities by no means accept that banks and professional firms should be allowed to import staff every time they want to expand.

With the acute pressure on housing the definition of essentiality has been tightened up. To get permission to bring in an outsider it must now be shown convincingly that the job is not one that could be done by a local person.

Rather more latitude is given to the clearing banks in recognition of the special part they play in the community and the inevitably labour-intensive nature of their operations.

But even here there is strong resistance to the idea that every

Industry in the Regions

imported bank clerk should be allowed to have his own house or flat. Jersey now specifically lays down that grades of staff from junior executive downwards should be housed in bank-owned lodgings.

For higher grades the policy in Jersey is that only a top manager can buy a house in his own name. Middle management and what an official described as "senior management" have to live in houses bought by the bank. In both cases at least £25,000 is expected to be paid for the property—and in practice it often has to be considerably more.

At the same time there is nothing to stop a "residentially qualified" bank employee, ie, someone who has lived in Jersey for 10 years, sharing his flat with up to five non-qualified colleagues, who count as lodgers.

Jersey's insistence on imported staff living in bank-owned property is proving "a real deterrent to recruiting", according to Mr Ray Sidaway, Williams & Glyn's Channel Islands manager.

However, Jersey had its reasons for not wanting transient bank staff to have freely marketable houses. The authorities decided that some of them were helping to inflate prices by buying houses on low-interest loans and selling them at a substantial profit when they left.

Guernsey has also been worried about this situation. Last year the island's housing authority wrote to all banks and finance houses asking them to ensure that "privileged interest loans" to staff were not abused in such ways.

In Guernsey the residential qualification is to have lived in the island between January 1, 1938, and June 30, 1957, and also on July 31, 1968. Anyone else needs a licence to occupy any kind of furnished or unfurnished accommodation, apart from lodgings and a pool of more expensive "open market" houses available to wealthy settlers.

Over the period 1970-72 about 330 "essential worker" licences were granted annually, but Guernsey's housing authority is now trying to cut this figure by a third.

Cost-cutting at Chase's Rome branch

From John Earle

Rome, June 2

Chase Manhattan Bank's Rome branch this weekend put into effect a series of restrictions on customers' accounts because of rising costs.

No interest will be paid on current accounts (such payments are normal practice in Italy) unless an average monthly balance is maintained of 2m lire (£1,334). Clients will be asked to maintain in any case a minimum balance of 500,000 lire, falling to 300,000 lire in the case of a 3,000 lire will be deducted.

On savings deposit accounts no interest will be paid on balances below 1m lire, while on accounts in foreign currency no interest will be paid on monthly balances below \$5,000 or equivalent.

The bank will also no longer handle standing orders for payment of rent, insurance premiums and the like.

A spokesman for the bank said the decision was dictated purely by rising costs. Similar restrictions are understood to have been introduced at Chase Manhattan's other Italian branches in Milan and Bari.

Barclays business customers will pay 25% less bank charges this half year.

For the period January to June 1974, Barclays Bank will give a 25% across-the-board rebate on bank charges to all non-personal customers. The only exceptions will be charges negotiated on an inter bank basis.

The basis of assessment agreed with customers remains unchanged, but the effect will be that some 520,000 of our customers will be charged only 75% of the commission due at the end of June for servicing their accounts.

Mr. Deryk Weyer, Senior General Manager, said: "We feel it is now the turn of trading and industrial customers to benefit. They have had a difficult winter. Three day working has cut production and on top of that costs of energy and raw materials have increased. We believe it is right for us to give some help by temporary rebate in our commission charges."

For further details please ask your local Barclays Manager.



Wool usage maintained

Wool requirements of United Kingdom woven and tufted carpet manufacturers last year exceeded more than 100 million lb for the second year in succession. The United Kingdom branch of the International Wool Secretariat said yesterday that although world demand for wool forced up the price during 1972 and 1973 there had been no appreciable decrease in consumption by British carpet manufacturers.

The IWS said that the very slight change in wool consumption in woven-carpet to 89.02 million lb, last year from 90.61 million lb the previous year had been balanced

Energy crisis forces US car industry to review its Wankel engine plans

Detroit, June 2.—The right prospects for the Wankel rotary engine have dimmed, mainly because the energy shortage revealed one of the Wankel's main weaknesses—its relatively poor petrol economy.

A year ago the future of the engine seemed assured. Toyota of Japan was investing the \$100 million in the Wankel-powered Mazda cars, and United States motorists were eager to pay \$500 more than for other comparable cars because of the smooth, peppy performance of rotary engines.

The Wankel's small size and fewer parts promised to make it cost less eventually than the conventional piston engine. Its size giving more room under the bonnet for emission-control devices and operating characteristics were said to give it an edge in meeting scheduled pollution controls.

General Motors had cautiously committed itself to introducing the first United States-built Wankel-powered car in Autumn 1974. Privately GM was weighing far more ambitious plans for more Wankel models by 1976 and, later, whole new "family" cars with front-wheel drive, small sloping bonnets, compact exteriors and spacious interiors.

Ford and American Motors had hurriedly signed for Wankel licences from Curtiss-Wright.

But now sales of Mazdas have fallen sharply, GM has delayed introduction of its first Wankel car and apparently shelved many of its other plans. Ford has abandoned all Wankel work and the holders of Wankel licensing rights—Audi-Volk of West Germany (a Volkswagen subsidiary), Louhra, of Britain and Curtiss-Wright have not signed

	1973	1972
Turnover	5,098,348	4,113,113
Net Trading Profit	485,416	163,813
U.K. Taxation thereon	242,313	63,813
Net Trading Profit after Tax	243,103	100,000
Less Extraordinary Items	58,654	42,000
Net Profit after Tax and extraordinary items	184,449	58,000
Dividends net (gross equivalent 10.22%) (1972: gross 5%)	74,037	50,000
Net Profit after tax and dividends	£110,412	£8,000
Earnings per ordinary share	6.0p	

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Our turnover during 1973 in both quantity of units and value was the highest ever achieved by the Company. Profits were handicapped by the low activity of business during the first four months of the year, but with the growth in activity as the year progressed, they increased strongly. A final dividend of 5% was paid in December 1973. An interim dividend of 5% was paid in December 1973. We have permission from the Department of Trade and Industry to pay a further 5.22% as a Final Dividend—10.22% for the year.

The upturn in business was late in arriving, but demand for our products showed a sudden increase in May and continued with rising demand throughout the year. The national demand was particularly apparent in the residential and office markets. The increased activity of industry generally and our introduction of a newly developed technique of manufacturing two types of material together to give a robust and polished surface cup. This new cup has been very good reception from our customers.

We had installed extra manufacturing equipment last year in anticipation of our business growing from its depressed state of surplus production capacity. One of our major demands and this has proved to have been a wise decision. We acquired Thurbaforn of Kettering on January 2nd 1974. This Company supplies Polyvinyl Chloride containers for food trade for packing such products as margarine and away over the counter foods. It is supplementary to our existing business and should strengthen our position in the market.

It is difficult at this moment to be specific about the outlook for 1974. Demand for our products continues to be high but the effects of raw material shortages, three-day working and the national economic and political situation have not been evaluated.

—AP-Dow Jones.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The Labour view of insider trading

Labour Party's paper on company law reform last week... insider trading... the image of Mr. Woodrow Wilson...

Mr. E. Weiss, chairman of Fosco Minsep... strength of the overseas income base... terms either. Both would prefer the 72p share indicated...

Beyer, Peacock Opening shots... the attempt by the Dublin-based investment group, Moore Holdings...

Crosfields & Calthrop... price down another 3p... on Friday, the stock...

Portals Defensive qualities... Portals' accounts show that the group performed rather better last year...

Accounts: 1973 (1972) Capitalization £45.3m Net assets £23.9m (£21.4m) Borrowings £4.7m (£5.51m) Pre-tax profit £3.66m (£7.2m) Earnings per share 10.0p (8.5p)

Accounts: 1973 (1972) Capitalization £11.7m Net assets £14.9m (£12.4m) Borrowings £2.3m (£4.9m) Pre-tax profit £3.88m (£3.25m) Earnings per share 12.42p (12.08p)

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over £300,000 just to maintain its share of the equity... The third point is the inference that the Beyer board is too heavy in non-executive directors...

Fosco Minsep Slower in the first quarter... A p/e ratio consistently running into double figures in recent weeks is a fair guide to the high level of stock market expectations...

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How much inflation in the pipeline? Little chance of prices slowdown

The retail price index rose 3 1/2 per cent in April bringing it to a level nearly 30 per cent higher than in October 1973...

The main purpose of this article is to suggest that it is premature to take an optimistic view and that it is unlikely that retail prices will slow down significantly during the rest of 1974...

The actual movement of prices between April and October depends on the extent to which this 'stored up' increase in costs gets passed on...

Calculations carried out in the Department of Applied Economics at Cambridge indicate that, by April, a rise in costs had occurred on a scale corresponding to a further increase in the (all items) retail price index of about 9 per cent...

Otherwise, relatively optimistic assumptions have been made, in particular that the sterling exchange rate is unaffected by these developments...

Perhaps the main obstacles to checking the inflation from next autumn will be first that large crude carriers and six more of 333,000 tons dw...

Recently the company moved into the construction of smaller ships picking up orders for two 66,000 ton dw products carriers...

Beyond the end of this decade the company has plans for more standard design ships - the nature of which Mr Hoppe was unwilling to enlarge upon...

Whether H & W is building those ships under the aegis of a nationalized corporation remains to be seen...

The group has, however, now nearly reached the end of the line in its construction contracts...

The Annual General Meeting of Houlder Line Limited will be held on June 25 in London...

The bulk carrier, "Clyde Bridge", in which we have an interest was unfortunately unable to benefit from the 1973 trade boom...

I would like to thank all concerned, including the trade unions with whom we are involved, for the way they have responded to the many demands made on them as a result of these new ventures...

Following this we acquired a small ore carrier, "Oregis" from our associated company, Ore Carriers Ltd...

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the effect of incomes policy, including threshold payments, are passed on with a normal time lag of about four months...

There are, of course, provisions in the Price Code designed to attenuate the effect of about cost increases on prices...

Moreover it is too early to assume that a substantial further fall in world commodity prices will occur or to be at all confident that sterling will hold at its present rate against other currencies...

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Harland's long search for profits

Champagne corks will be popping throughout most of next week in Athens...

The occasion is Posidonía '74 or, more prosaically, the International Shipping Exhibition held every two years in Athens...

The damage caused by the strike, while it may be measured in terms of lost production, cannot be effectively measured in terms of effects on the ordering pattern which owners may adopt in the future...

While its executives understandably do not like to become involved in political arguments, the group will be separated totally from them...

In the light of the importance of the group to the economy the decision by the Government not to commit itself to the provision of additional funds for the time being is clearly preferable...

Now that the strike is over the question of the extra cash is expected to be resolved in the very near future...

Orson Welles will fill your television screen next month when Luis Gordon Group joins hands with Pedro Domecq SA in a film advertising campaign aimed at getting more sherry down your throat...

At least you can't ignore him, and if enough people express their disapproval of the product he is selling, then both Luis Gordon, the importer, and Pedro Domecq, the producer, will be happy...

For recent years have shown that while most of us drink, fewer of us take our first sip, turn to sherry. Vernoullis like Martini and Cinzano are the ready drinks and that worries Luis Gordon and Domecq, two old and close families and firms that for 76 years have traded with each other...

At over £40m a year, the United Kingdom sherry market is the world's largest, although man for man, the Dutch are far and away the heaviest sherry drinkers...

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Harland's long search for profits

Champagne corks will be popping throughout most of next week in Athens...

The occasion is Posidonía '74 or, more prosaically, the International Shipping Exhibition held every two years in Athens...

The damage caused by the strike, while it may be measured in terms of lost production, cannot be effectively measured in terms of effects on the ordering pattern which owners may adopt in the future...

While its executives understandably do not like to become involved in political arguments, the group will be separated totally from them...

In the light of the importance of the group to the economy the decision by the Government not to commit itself to the provision of additional funds for the time being is clearly preferable...

Now that the strike is over the question of the extra cash is expected to be resolved in the very near future...

Orson Welles will fill your television screen next month when Luis Gordon Group joins hands with Pedro Domecq SA in a film advertising campaign aimed at getting more sherry down your throat...

At least you can't ignore him, and if enough people express their disapproval of the product he is selling, then both Luis Gordon, the importer, and Pedro Domecq, the producer, will be happy...

For recent years have shown that while most of us drink, fewer of us take our first sip, turn to sherry. Vernoullis like Martini and Cinzano are the ready drinks and that worries Luis Gordon and Domecq, two old and close families and firms that for 76 years have traded with each other...

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Business Diary in Europe: Thawing Greenland? • Nypro's Dutch parent

Mr. Thomson, the EEC missioner for regional aid, is back in Brussels what seems to have been a joyable five-day trip to the island, despite his hosts' de to the Community...

It is hoped that a system of small landing strips capable of taking small passenger aircraft can be developed...

Half the costs of the excellent central technical college are already paid by the EEC's social fund, and Community funds could help to finance a study on possible local industries to augment fish processing...

What is Dutch State Mines, 55 per cent owner of Nypro, whose factory was devastated by the Flixborough explosion? DSM was developed from the nationalized concern which ran the Dutch coalmines through a gigantic multinational concern with world-wide subsidiaries...

Under Dr W. A. J. Bogers, president of the board of managing directors, turnover this year is expected to exceed £1,000m. It ranks 99th in the fortune list of the 300 largest industrialists outside the United States...

It also has a considerable share in the exploitation of the Dutch natural gas wells and has a right to participate in any exploitation of any oil eventually found under the Dutch continental shelf...

The group also has a share in the top-secret project for producing enriched uranium for atomic reactors being developed by Britain, West Germany and The Netherlands, with its centre in the east of The Netherlands...

The concern is busy building up interests in the transport, clothing and car industries...

When in Rome In these times of crisis for European cooperation, someone is still showing confidence in strengthening links with Italy...

The premises, with a royal blue colour scheme, have been found in a 16th century palazzo in one of the most historic parts of Rome, behind the Teatro di Marcello amphitheatre and a stone's throw from the Capitol Hill...

Much of the frantic activity is being crammed into the one month because the West Germans, who have been chairing Council of Ministers meetings for the first six months of the year, are anxious to go out with a flourish before they hand over to the French...

Wide spread The folly of having the European Council in various situations sprinkled across the map will reach new, dizzy heights this month when no less than 12 important meetings of ministers and parliamentarians are to be held outside Brussels...



Lord Catto: reception in Rome.



Guy Hannaford: reception in Rome.

still 1962. After that he became deputy chairman of Marconi Italiana and representative of English Electric...

Wide spread The folly of having the European Council in various situations sprinkled across the map will reach new, dizzy heights this month when no less than 12 important meetings of ministers and parliamentarians are to be held outside Brussels...

At least nine Council of Ministers meetings, one-third of all those held during the first half of this year, will take place in Luxembourg; the European Parliament is due to meet twice, once in Strasbourg and once in the Grand Duchy; and, to cap it all, foreign ministers of the Nine will meet in an isolated baroque castle outside Brussels...

A quick glance at the calendar shows that diplomats, European Commission officials and their entourage of journalists can guarantee to be in Brussels for only one week out of four. For the rest of the month, they will be on the move...

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Following this we acquired a small ore carrier, "Oregis" from our associated company, Ore Carriers Ltd...

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The bulk carrier, "Clyde Bridge", in which we have an interest was unfortunately unable to benefit from the 1973 trade boom...

I would like to thank all concerned, including the trade unions with whom we are involved, for the way they have responded to the many demands made on them as a result of these new ventures...

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WALTER RUNCIMAN & CO. LTD.

A Holding Company with Interests in Shipping, Insurance and Security

The Chairman, Viscount Runciman, reports on 1973

In spite of greatly increased interest charges, Profit before Taxation is more than £250,000 up on 1972.

The Shipping and Insurance Divisions have done very well and should do still better in 1974. The Security Division contributed less than was hoped in 1973 and suffered severely from the three-day week earlier this year, but its performance should improve as the year goes on.

We shall be disappointed if 1974 does not show an increase in profits substantially greater than 1973 has shown over 1972.

Summary of Figures

Table with 3 columns: Year (1973, 1972), Profit on Trading, Profit before Taxation, Profit after Taxation, Dividend per Share, Earnings per Share.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Footall's cautious but overseas still 'strong'

Ashley Druker
Coming out of the working
strictions period, better than
initially expected. Total turned
profits for 1973/74 advanced
on £12.1m to £18.3m pre-tax...

Freight report

VLCC Gulf rates
continue to climb

Freight rates for Persian Gulf
VLCCs continued to climb last
week although rather more hesi-
tantly at the end. Owners never-
theless remained confident of
further gains...

Euromarkets

Eurobonds: is
the worst over?

Is the Eurobond market
bottoming out at last? It would
be a brave man indeed who
would respond with a categori-
cal 'yes' to such a question...

Results

Robert Moss at
week but slows
in second-half

The second half of Robert
Moss, Oxford-based injection
moulders, shows a marked slow-
down after the opening 40
per cent upturn...

Staffex International

Sales and profits in the first
four months of 1974 are ahead
of budget and 'well ahead' of
last year, reports Mr. I. N.
Bellows, chairman of Staffex
International...

Camford Engineering

Pointing out that comparison
between the two halves is not
strictly accurate, Camford Engi-
neering reports pre-tax profit
for six months to March 31 down
from £403,000 to £318,000...

Brokers' views

The great debate on the
prospects for the stock market
continued last week with
several leading stockbrokers
contributing lengthy research
publications...

Brokers' views

Fuller also recommends short
dated gilts, arguing that further
cuts in United Kingdom inter-
est rates are likely as sterling
strengthens. But Simon & Coates
remains cautious on gilts...

Eurobond prices
(yields and premiums)

Table with columns for Eurobond prices, yields, and premiums. Includes entries for various countries like Australia, Austria, Belgium, etc.

Terry Byland

STANWOOD
RADIO LIMITED

Expansion of Colour TV Rentals

Table showing financial data for Stanwood Radio Limited: Profit before tax, Profit after tax, Total Ordinary Dividend, Earnings per Share.

Highlights from the circulated statement of the Chairman, Mr. Stanley Wood, F.C.A., A.C.M.A.

Although turnover, trading profit and cash flow continued to expand...

The re-imposition of terms control on rental and hire-purchase contracts in December last has resulted in reduced new business...

Our rental subscribers now total approximately 52,000 of whom 32,000 are renting colour television.

The requirement of 42 weeks' rental in advance on new contracts will continue to restrict new business in the current year...

The Directors are confident that satisfactory results can be achieved this year despite ever-increasing costs and the many problems to be overcome.

Christopher Wilkins

Globe
Investment
Trust LIMITED
Net profit up 36 per cent

From the statement of the chairman, Mr. Alastair F. Roger

The Company Year
The accounts show a 20 p.c. increase in gross revenue and a 36 p.c. increase in net profit...

The increase in the trust's dividend will support the faith of its stockholders that investment trusts continue to provide a worthwhile outlet for savings and longer-term funds...

One of the advantages of an investment trust, as opposed to a unit trust, is that as and when stock markets are considered suitable for investment, investment trusts are entitled to raise fixed-interest money...

Policy
To ensure a truly international spread of investments, Globe is extending its policy of forming investment companies abroad...

Copies of the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 1974 can be obtained from the Secretary, Electra House, Victoria Embankment, London, WC2R 3HP

AN ELECTRA HOUSE COMPANY

Capper-Neill

Designers, manufacturers and erectors of pipework, storage and process plant for industry.

Mr. W. P. Capper, Chairman and Managing Director, in his annual review comments: "We look forward to a year of increased trading, with a profit exceeding that for 1973/74."

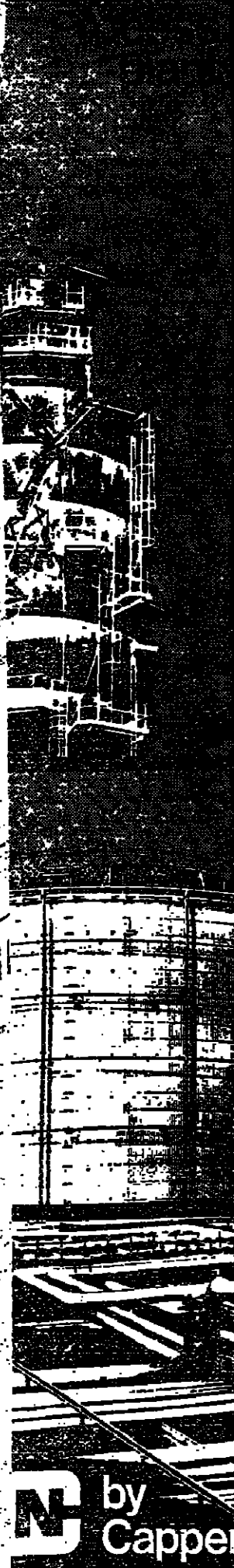
Other points made by Mr. Capper are:

- * Satisfactory result for the year despite the problems experienced by many other companies in the heavy fabricating industry.
* Highest ever order books throughout most sectors of the Group.
* Successful year for Capper Pipe Service with improved prospects for 1974/75.
* Several large tankage contracts satisfactorily completed during the year.
* Operations out on sites now account for three-quarters of Group turnover.

GROUP RESULTS IN BRIEF 1973/74

Table showing Group Results in Brief for 1973/74: Trading profit, Interest payable, Profit (before tax), Tax, Profit (after tax), Dividend, Capital employed, Earnings per share.

Report and Accounts containing Mr. W. P. Capper's Review in full are available from: The Secretary, Capper-Neill Ltd., Woolston, Warrington, WAT 4AU.



The Directors of Capper-Neill Limited regret to advise members that as a result of an industrial dispute at the printers the Directors' Report and Accounts, including the notice of the Annual General Meeting could not be issued on May 30, 1974. Consequently the Annual General Meeting must be delayed. A further announcement will be issued as soon as possible.

Bensons International Systems Limited

Confidence in Further Growth

The Annual General Meeting of Bensons International Systems Limited will be held in London on 27th June, 1974. The following are extracts from the circulated statement of the Chairman Mr. Frank Bennett.

Profit before tax for the year ended 31st December, 1973, £693,607 (1972 £512,470) with net earnings of £321,676 (1972 £265,440).

Proposed final dividend of 13.5% net (1972 13.475% net) which with the interim dividend of 5% net gives a total for the year equivalent to 27.3% gross (1972 26.25% gross).

Overseas subsidiaries all returned record profits and new acquisitions met their targets.

Indications for 1974 are extremely encouraging with the prospect of excellent contributions from all members of the Group both at home and overseas.

The first quarter's results for 1974 are ahead of the same period of 1973 and order books are at record levels. The difficulties of the power crisis and short-week working at the beginning of the year were surmounted satisfactorily and should prove no drawback to the attainment of new heights in sales and profits.

The leading manufacturers of loose leaf ring binders, equipment and systems for use in all branches of industry, commerce, education, and government administration.

Brimscombe, Stroud, Gloucestershire

More share prices

The following companies will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News:

Commercial and Industrial Cudler Hammer Royal Sovereign Group

FINANCIAL NEWS

Bottle shortage curbed Teacher's sales rise

By Our Financial Staff
The 12 per cent increase in the volume of United Kingdom sales achieved by Teacher's last year would have been nearer 25 per cent had it not been for a shortage of bottles in the home market, says Mr Adam K. Bergius, chairman, in his annual report.

Results this week

Outstanding results this week include Charter Consolidated, De La Rue and House of Fraser, who are releasing their full-year figures tomorrow. F & O and Westland Aircraft will report at the half-year on Wednesday.

Briefly

RENTALS
Sales for first four months of current year are 9 per cent of same period of last year but chairman warns of "serious problem" of 10 per cent cut in gross margins.

Business appointments

Mr J B Woodeson is Reyrolle chairman

Mr J. B. Woodeson has been elected chairman of Reyrolle Parsons. He succeeds Mr E. T. Judge who has retired.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001219 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of WARNER SINGHAR & Co. Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.

BUSINESS NOTICES

DEPARTS U.K. Good sales records and growth for 1973 and 1974. Active participation in various sports and social activities.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Table listing various fixed interest stocks with columns for stock name, price, and yield.

The Times Share Indices

Table showing share indices for various sectors and the overall market, including the Times Industrial Share Index.

ELSWICK-HOPPER

Group pre-tax profit for year, £242,300 (against £106,700 of 1973). Earnings per share 55p (11.54p). Total dividend 0.53p (0.5p).

INTER-CITY INVESTMENT

Mr J. Harris, chairman, has sold 325,000 beneficially-owned shares and 150,000 non-beneficially-owned shares to company in which Mr A. Judd is chairman and director.

RAINE ENGINEERING

For £215,000 in cash and shares group have acquired Effingham Steel, based in Sheffield and engaged in strip cold-rolling, hardening and tempering.

THOMSON T-LINE CARAVANS

Oil crisis and three-day week led to a 30 per cent increase in enquiries to Mr D. Thomson's caravan business.

Table of Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, showing current and previous prices for various funds.

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LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001178 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of GENTLE (BROMLEY) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.

Bank Base Rates advertisement listing various bank rates for different terms and currencies.

NATIONAL SUNLIGHT LAUNDRIES LIMITED advertisement detailing the company's 1973 financial performance and future outlook.

Table of Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, showing current and previous prices for various funds.

Table of Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, showing current and previous prices for various funds.

Table of Unit Trust Prices - change on the week, showing current and previous prices for various funds.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001188 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of CANTON MANCHESTER (LIMITED) and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.

LEGAL NOTICES

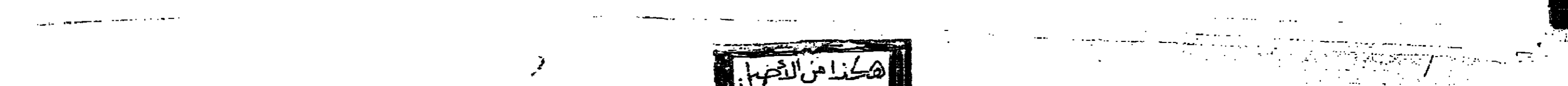
No. 001246 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of ALLIANCE (UK) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001255 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of INTERNATIONAL COAST GUARDS (HOLDINGS) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 001256 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division, Companies Court in the Matter of INTERNATIONAL COAST GUARDS (HOLDINGS) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1947.



London and Regional Market Prices

Capitalization & week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 24 Dealings End, June 7 Contango Day, June 10 Settlement Day, June 18

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

Answersone ANSWERS AND RECORDS FOR ONLY £1.60 P.W.K. 19 UPPER BROOK STREET, LONDON W1Y 2HS RING ANYTIME 01-629 9232

Drummond's Freedom Suitings Acut above the rest!

Table of stock prices and market data, including sections for 'BRITISH FUNDS', 'COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN', 'LOCAL AUTHORITIES', 'FOREIGN STOCKS', 'DOLLAR STOCKS', 'BANKS AND DISCOUNTS', and 'BREWERS AND DISTILLERS'.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

Table of stock prices for Commercial and Industrial sectors, including companies like British Petroleum, Shell, and various industrial firms.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of stock prices for Financial Trusts, including various investment and trust companies.

INSURANCE

Table of stock prices for Insurance companies, including various life and general insurance firms.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of stock prices for Investment Trusts, including various asset management and investment funds.

OIL

Table of oil prices, including various oil companies and energy-related stocks.

PROPERTY

Table of property prices, including various real estate and property-related investments.

RUBBER

Table of rubber prices, including various rubber plantations and related companies.

TEA

Table of tea prices, including various tea estates and related companies.

MISCELLANEOUS

Table of miscellaneous stock prices, including various other companies and sectors.

REGIONALS

Table of regional stock prices, including various regional companies and markets.

MINES

Table of mine stock prices, including various mining companies and operations.

Disclaimer and publication information at the bottom right of the page.

Commercial and Industrial Property

A DEVELOPMENT BY RAVENSBY PROPERTIES LIMITED
(Principal subsidiary of the Land Securities Investment Trust Limited)
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM

4 STOPS FROM THE BANK OF ENGLAND

THE STRATFORD CENTRE
LONDON E15

TWO AIR-CONDITIONED OFFICE BUILDINGS
Totalling approx **163,000 sq. ft.**

TO BE LET TOGETHER OR SEPARATELY
Ample Car Parking
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION

Joint Letting Agents
Hillier Parker May & Rowland
77 Grosvenor Street London W1A 2BT
Tel: 01-629 7656

VICTOR BEHRENS, SANDHURST & CO.
15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91, 93, 95, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127, 129, 131, 133, 135, 137, 139, 141, 143, 145, 147, 149, 151, 153, 155, 157, 159, 161, 163, 165, 167, 169, 171, 173, 175, 177, 179, 181, 183, 185, 187, 189, 191, 193, 195, 197, 199, 201, 203, 205, 207, 209, 211, 213, 215, 217, 219, 221, 223, 225, 227, 229, 231, 233, 235, 237, 239, 241, 243, 245, 247, 249, 251, 253, 255, 257, 259, 261, 263, 265, 267, 269, 271, 273, 275, 277, 279, 281, 283, 285, 287, 289, 291, 293, 295, 297, 299, 301, 303, 305, 307, 309, 311, 313, 315, 317, 319, 321, 323, 325, 327, 329, 331, 333, 335, 337, 339, 341, 343, 345, 347, 349, 351, 353, 355, 357, 359, 361, 363, 365, 367, 369, 371, 373, 375, 377, 379, 381, 383, 385, 387, 389, 391, 393, 395, 397, 399, 401, 403, 405, 407, 409, 411, 413, 415, 417, 419, 421, 423, 425, 427, 429, 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